

MEP/HEI Partnerships—Assessing Workforce Needs and Assets

INSTRUCTIONS

Explore workforce development issues and how these are playing out in your partnership. Complete the framework on the next page. The following page provides an example of how these issues were identified for the Northern Illinois University/IMEC partnership.

1. Start with the middle column. Identify 3 – 5 talent and workforce development needs that have become evident and that are related specifically to the focus of the current partnership and technology/technologies. Then, identify 3 – 5 more general, longer-term workforce needs.
2. Next, in the second column from the left, identify HEI assets (academic programs, experts, facilities, research, etc.) that can be tapped to help address each of the workforce needs you have identified.
3. Then work on the first column at the left. In this column, identify ways in which the MEP can/should partner with the HEI in order to engage the listed HEI assets and make them available to SMM's to help them address workforce needs.
4. Next, focus on MEP assets (staff expertise, relationships, events, facilities, etc.) that can be tapped for each of the identified workforce needs.
5. Finally, in the last column on the right, identify the ways in which the University can/should partner with the MEP to engage the listed MEP assets and help deliver on the promise these assets hold for addressing workforce needs.

Collaboration Needed by HEI with MEP	HEI Assets	SMM Talent and Workforce Development Needs	MEP Assets	Collaboration Needed by MEP with HEI
Needs, Assets, Collaboration Directly Related to Current Partnership				
More General, Longer Term Needs, Assets, Collaboration				

Collaboration Needed by University with MEP	University Assets	SMM Talent and Workforce Development Needs	MEP Assets	Collaboration Needed by MEP with University
Needs, Assets, Collaboration Directly Related to Current Partnership				
Provide connectivity	Recourse (staff, equipment)	Advanced mfg.tech training	Staff expertise	Operational training
Outreach & Education	10-week LaunchIT program	Market need support	Staff expertise	Market analysis
Provide connectivity	R&D expertise	Technology Transition support	Staff expertise	Business growth support
Events	Courses and Workshops	Education	Events	QMS and Lean certificates
Provide connectivity	Grants writing assistance	SBIR/STTR proposals	Facilities	Patent and technology search
More General, Longer Term Needs, Assets, Collaboration				
Outreach & Education	Student interns + Workshops	Workforce talent pipeline	Facilities	Scouting & advertisement
Provide connectivity	AM programs	Certificate programs	Staff expertise	Six Sigma and GMS
Ops training	Manufacturing Accelerators	SBIR/STTR convergence	Facilities	Partnerships
Events	Workshops and Seminars	Supply chain Training	Facilities	Networking