



ASCEND 307

Progression of Employability Skill Development

Early Childhood Education

- Focus on the development of foundational cognitive, emotional, and interpersonal skills.
- Provide play-based learning opportunities.
- Support children through guided social interactions.
- Integrate families and communities in the development of foundational skills.

Elementary Education

- Integrate employability skills into core academic subjects.
- Provide opportunities for the development of digital literacy skills.
- Leverage project-based learning to support the development of interpersonal skills like collaboration and communication.

Secondary Education

- Provide structured opportunities for the development of career readiness skills.
- Provide ample access to CTE programs and work-based learning opportunities.
- Support the development of additional skills like financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Post-Secondary Education and Workforce Development

- Align curricular offerings with workforce demands.
- Expand access to microcredentialing programs.
- Provide ample opportunities for mentorship, career advancement, work-based learning, and upskilling.

Citation: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Building a Future-Ready Workforce: Insights for Employability Skills Framework 2.0, Washington, D.C., 2025. This document is available at <https://cte.ed.gov/initiatives/employability-skills-framework>.