



KEYTRAIN AND
WORKKEYS
USAGES IN

HIGH SCHOOLS

WorkKeys®

KeyTrain in High Schools and Career and Technical Education

Illinois: More than 350 high schools including all of Chicago Public Schools

Michigan: Approximately 200 high schools including all of Detroit Public Schools

Arkansas: Statewide contract

Georgia: More than one-third of high schools

Ohio: More than one-half of vocational schools

Pennsylvania: 50+ high schools

Indiana: 70+ high schools

Virginia: 60+ high schools

West Virginia: 50% of CTE programs

Oklahoma: Statewide Career and Technology Education Centers

Tennessee: Statewide Tennessee Technology Centers

GEORGIA

Clarke County Schools implemented KeyTrain to provide all students with marketable skills, regardless of their post-secondary educational and career pathways. As a result, student motivation has improved and school performance on state assessments for NCLB has increased. *Implementing KeyTrain in Your Classroom* is an approved Professional Learning Course for the system. Teachers attending receive professional learning continuing education credits. The program increases student achievement and helps the district increase the percentage of students meeting standards.

www.keytrain.com

877-842-6205



outcomes

Better Scores on Standardized Tests

Career Readiness Certifications

Ready for College and Work

Students with High-Demand Skills

Building Work Skills for Life after High School

A growing amount of research indicates that high skill levels are required to succeed in today's economy and that schools are having difficulty preparing students for their future in college or the workplace. One of the recommendations stemming from the Commission on No Child Left Behind involves an additional assessment in 12th grade to measure preparedness for college and career, including English and Mathematics.

Illinois pioneered this type of assessment with the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). The PSAE includes the ACT and WorkKeys® assessments for Reading for Information and Applied Mathematics. KeyTrain is used in more than 350 Illinois high schools - 110 in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) alone - to teach these applied skills. More than 130,000 students have used KeyTrain at CPS for more than 400,000 hours. Students completing at least one lesson in KeyTrain scored higher in Applied Mathematics by one level and in Reading for Information by one half level on average.

Michigan has adopted an assessment called the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) that also includes the ACT and WorkKeys Reading for Information and Applied Mathematics. In order to teach the skills required for the MME, KeyTrain is the curriculum of choice in Michigan. More than 300 high schools in Michigan have chosen to use KeyTrain, including all of Detroit Public Schools.

In Georgia KeyTrain is the only WorkKeys Level 1 curriculum approved and recommended by the Georgia Board of Education, for Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education. A recent study used as the basis of a Ph.D. dissertation showed KeyTrain users in special populations (such as at-risk and others) passing math and english portions of the Georgia High School Graduation Test at rates of 92 to 97% vs. non-KeyTrain users at 27-52%.

The West Virginia Board of Education confers exemplary accreditation status when high quality standards and performance measures are met. These involve basic skills achievement, low dropout rate and success on the writing assessment. WorkKeys is included as a part of these measurements. The Academy of Careers and Technology was named an exemplary school based on several proficiency standards, including WorkKeys scores in Applied Math and Reading for Information. KeyTrain was instrumental in the success on WorkKeys.

As one of the first states to implement a WorkKeys-Based Career Readiness Certificate, **Virginia** has found tremendous value in the use of WorkKeys and KeyTrain. The VA Department of Education first approved WorkKeys Writing as an alternative to the required Writing Standards of Learning (SOL) test. Subsequently WorkKeys Reading and Math were approved as substitute reading and math tests for some special education students. Many school districts in the state use WorkKeys and KeyTrain to help those that may not have otherwise graduated.

Grand Junction, Colorado: More and more schools and workforce agencies are partnering to move students from academics to the workplace and WorkKeys is their common language. One such partnership is that of MESA County Workforce and schools in Grand Junction, Colorado. This partnership has led to tremendous success for students and those seeking employment in the community. Students in the program take WorkKeys tests in eight areas. Their goal is to attain levels established to receive a certificate and for graduation. The clients of the workforce agency also use the WorkKeys system to meet the WIA performance standards. Using KeyTrain the students reach these goals, giving students who were not succeeding a second chance.

RESULTS IN HIGH SCHOOLS

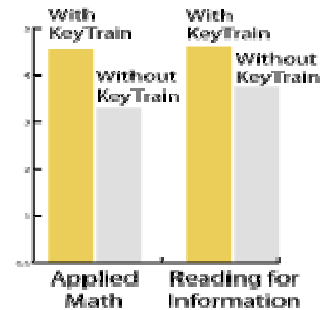
Measurable Results Set KeyTrain Programs Apart

Illinois

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) conducted a side-by-side comparison of the two ACT Level 1 WorkKeys curriculum vendors. KeyTrain was unanimously chosen after an exhaustive three-month test and comparison.

KeyTrain was implemented in over 100 high schools. Students who completed at least one level in KeyTrain scored:

- One level higher on WorkKeys Applied Mathematics on average.
- One-half level higher on WorkKeys Reading for Information on average.



Reavis High School worked with their English and Social Studies departments to devise a schedule to teach specific components of the KeyTrain program over the course of four months. They also allotted a class period once a week for 10 weeks for students to work in KeyTrain. The goal was higher scores on WorkKeys portions of Illinois' high school progress exam, the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE).

According to Joe Simone, Humanities Division Chairman, "This final strategy proved successful as many of these students reached levels 5 and 6 status on the PSAE...We made AYP the last two years and we credit a lot of the success to our increased recognition of the WorkKeys portion of the PSAE."



North Carolina

In May 2007, Randolph County Job Link, in partnership with Asheboro City and Randolph County Schools, received a WIRED grant issued by North Carolina's Piedmont Triad Partnership. The grant funded a demonstration project designed to use WorkKeys, KeyTrain and Career Readiness Certification with High School Students to prepare them for the 21st century workplace.

In order to prepare students for high wage and high skill jobs in new and emerging occupations, the project was designed to connect students to occupations and North Carolina's JobLink, identify skill gaps, and address training needs.

Students are assessed with WorkKeys Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. A portion of the students are then assigned KeyTrain to measure the effect on their WorkKeys scores and Career Readiness Certificate levels. So far, of the students who used KeyTrain:

- 52 increased their scores in Applied Mathematics
- 71 increased their scores in Reading for Information
- 72 increased their scores in Locating Information
- 83 upgraded their Career Readiness Certificate level

Certificate Level Upgrades After Using KeyTrain (83 Students)

