



## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### GOVERNOR'S SUMMIT ON CAREER CONNECTED LEARNING TO INCLUDE UNION GAP MEETING

*Union Gap one of 27 regional locations set to discuss strategies to help Washington youth gain needed work skills, prepare for high-demand jobs.*

Local representatives from business and industry, educators, and community leaders are invited to discuss next steps to help young people gain work readiness skills needed to fill high-demand jobs.

The local event, sponsored by Yakima County 4-H Youth Development, will run from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 31 at the WSU Yakima County Extension office, 2403 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Union Gap, WA 98903. The event is free and lunch will be provided, but space is limited to 50 participants. Participants must register at [www.washingtonstem.org/govsummit](http://www.washingtonstem.org/govsummit).

Discussions will focus on helping more Washington youth gain access to a wide range of career-connected learning opportunities, including:

- Internships
- Apprenticeships
- Job shadows
- Mentorships
- Job fairs
- Classroom visits from area employers

It's part of a broader conversation offered at 27 regional sites as part of Governor Inslee's Summit on Career-Connected Learning.

Washington businesses consistently report difficulty in finding hires with work-ready skills to fill key positions. There will be 740,000 job openings over the next five years in Washington alone. Career-connected learning has been proven to help young people complete their education goals and find meaningful pathways to employment.

Gov. Inslee will deliver live remarks at a central location at the Microsoft Campus in Redmond before an audience of 400 people, Inslee's presentation will also be streamed live to regional sites including WSU Yakima County Extension, bringing the total audience to about 1,000 individuals.

Gov. Inslee's remarks will be followed by discussions where community leaders will be able to ask questions, learn more about how to help young people in their own area gain work experience, and create a pipeline of skilled workers to meet the needs of business in even the most remote areas of the state.

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