The set of skills needed to succeed in any career and empower students to achieve long-term career success. Examples are time management, active listening, project management, self-awareness, and problem solving.

ACCSC's Mission is to Ensure Quality Education that Enhances Student Success in the Workforce. ACCSC encourages schools to adopt a framework for high-quality career education programs which includes not only technical and academic competencies, but also workforce competency.

What Are Essential Workforce Skills?

- The set of skills needed to succeed in any career and empower students to achieve long-term career success.
- Examples are time management, active listening, project management, self-awareness, and problem solving.

ACCSC's Framework for a High-Quality Career Education Program

ACCSC's Mission is to Ensure Quality Education that Enhances Student Success in the Workforce. ACCSC encourages schools to adopt a framework for high-quality career education programs which includes not only technical and academic competencies, but also workforce competency.

Technical Competency
Skills necessary to perform work tasks in a specific job and supported by theory and practical application determined in collaboration with industry representatives.

Academic Competency
Skills that strengthen and support development of technical and workforce competencies that are cultivated in an academic environment.

Workforce Competency
Skills necessary to succeed in any career and to continuously find, attract, and create opportunities for working and learning throughout one's career.
Institutions can choose to seek EWS programmatic certification at two different levels of distinction:

**ACCSC's EWS Programmatic Certification Levels**

**Level I:** Program meets minimum standards for EWS Programmatic Certification evidencing alignment to ACCSC EWS standards in four ACCSC EWS competency areas of the institution’s choosing.

**Level II:** Program exceeds minimum standards for EWS Programmatic Certification evidencing alignment to ACCSC EWS standards in all six ACCSC Essential Workforce Skills competency areas.

**The Need for EWS Programmatic Certification**

**Students**

There is a growing consensus that essential workforce skills needed in the labor market are in high demand. It’s imperative that career education institutions close this skills gap to better prepare students to succeed in the workforce.

**Institutions**

Institutions can use EWS Programmatic Certification as a reliable source to identify and define the specific essential workforce skills to address in their programs, establish quality criteria against which to evaluate their practices, and provide a structured process for self-assessment.

**Employers**

Employers need candidates with essential workforce skills to power their businesses and the economy. However, they lack reliable signals to identify programs that effectively address the essential workforce skills they need.
Assets and Important Links

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