

# PWR News – August 2025

From the Office of Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness (PWR)



Welcome back! We hope you've had time for rest, vacations, and family this summer and are ready to welcome students back for the 2025-26 school year!

## FEATURED ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PWR Town Hall – Aug. 13

Our office is holding a virtual Town Hall on Wednesday, August 13 at 2:00pm to discuss significant changes coming to postsecondary and workforce readiness options for students. Learn about several policy and funding updates on what we're calling "The Big Three" outcomes (college credit, industry-recognized credentials, and quality work-based learning), which also includes accountability changes to the PWR sub-indicator on the performance framework.

[Register for the Town Hall](#). This will be recorded and posted on the PWR Regional Training page referenced below.

### PWR Regional Trainings

We will hold six regional trainings from September through December to support districts and schools in understanding the new PWR updates, including new funding information, "The Big Three" outcomes, and accountability changes to the PWR sub-indicator on the performance framework. A new ICAP Model will also be offered as an optional tool to implement The Big Three.

Registration will open three weeks prior to each training date with a waitlist enabled once capacity is reached. Priority will be given to regional districts and schools. While registration will not close, we ask that attendees register at least one week before the event date so we can arrange for any accommodations and dietary needs. Registration links will be shared on the [PWR Regional Training page](#).

- Pikes Peak Region: Colorado Springs - September 10, 2025
  - Northwest & West Central Region: Steamboat Springs - October 21, 2025
  - Eastern Plains Region: Limon - October 28, 2025
  - Denver Metro Region: November 12, 2025
  - Southwest & South Central Region: Alamosa - November 18, 2025
  - Northeast Region: Sterling - December 9, 2025
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## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (HSE)

#### **New HSE Newsletter**

The new Colorado HSE Newsletter aims to keep GED and HiSET programs around the state abreast of changes and opportunities from the HSE office and the test publishers.

[Sign up for the HSE Newsletter here](#). Contact [Alena Barczak](#) for a copy of the first edition, which was sent out on August 1, or to discuss HSE options for high school students.

### INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL LIST (Formerly CDIP)

#### **Request Certifications to be Reviewed – Due Aug. 31**

The form is open for districts to submit certifications to be reviewed for inclusion in the 2026-27 approved list. All requests are required to have a minimum of one letter of support (either your local workforce development board or an industry partner.)

[Submit a certification request here](#) by Sunday, August 31.

### SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT

#### **Upcoming Cohort Meetings**

Welcome back all SCCG grantees Cohorts 12-15! We will see you at the [fall virtual meetings](#):

- Virtual Welcome All Cohorts: August 27, 9-11am
- Virtual Fiscal Training: September 3, 9-10am

Questions? Contact [Brooke Morgan](#) or [Jennicca Mabe](#)

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Construction Training and Scholarship – Aug. 25

[Hands to the Future](#) is accepting applicants for their new Construction Connect cohort taking place the week of August 25. Participants must be at least 18 years old, have intermediate English skills, and hold a valid work permit.

The program will support participants with classes at New America College to improve English language skills if needed. Otherwise, participants will engage in

hands-on training from Teach by Tech to learn how to use power tools and earn certifications for working in the construction field.

Participants will receive a \$1,250 scholarship after completing each part of the program. Share the [Construction Connect interest form](#) with interested people or contact [Armando Peniche](#) with Hands to the Future with any questions.

## Seal of Climate Literacy Grant Opportunity – Due Aug. 18

Year 2 of the Seal of Climate Literacy Implementation Fund is now open. Lyra is offering flexible grants of up to \$5,000 to support new and continuing implementation efforts. Applications are due by August 18, 2025.

- **New LEPs can apply here:** [Application for New LEPs](#)
- **Returning grantees can apply here:** [Application for Second-Year Grantees](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Ellarie Anderson](#), Senior Manager of Growth at Lyra Colorado.

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## CONTACT US

[PWR Team](#) | [PWR Website](#) | [PWR Calendar](#) | [PWR News Signup](#)