



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WIN Partners with Education Commission of the States Agreement Equips Education Policy Leaders with Key Data

KINGSTON, Tennessee (April 28, 2010) – Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) and the Education Commission of the States (ECS) have announced a strategic partnership to provide data and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of ideas to support strategic decision-making by the nation’s public education policy leaders.

The objectives of the partnership are to enhance and improve the data available to policy leaders at the state, regional and national levels; and to support ECS in meeting its commitment to be the key resource to the states as they work to improve teaching and learning for their citizens.

To achieve these objectives, WIN and ECS will look for opportunities to collaborate, develop programming, use data, and support policy development. Through the partnership, ECS members will have access to the WIN Strategic Compass[®], a web-based tool for assessing economic trend data, education and workforce data and gap analyses between workforce supply and demand. The WIN Strategic Compass provides:

- **Workforce Analysis** to determine current and future skills gaps based upon employer- and industry-identified needs. The Compass compares the “as is” workforce to the “should be” workforce based upon supply shortages and surpluses in degrees, knowledge, skills and abilities, allowing education and workforce policies to be aligned toward meeting the current and forecasted demands of the business community.



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- **Education Analysis** to determine supply and demand for specific courses and instructional programs and the gap between what is available and what is needed.
 - **Career Pathways** allowing individuals to create customized career pathways by occupational, career cluster and instructional program interests and compatibility.
 - **Customized Data Analysis and Reporting** in which users can select the data elements for a desired geographic region to create targeted analysis and reports for various audiences.

WIN is the leading publisher of Career Readiness Courseware, a program designed to deliver skills-based training for tomorrow's workforce, today! As a curriculum company with 28-statewide career-readiness initiatives, WIN realized that in order for its customers to be effective and efficient in delivering skills-based approaches for workforce education, they needed a simple but comprehensive data integration and visualization tool that would allow them to "see" where integrated policy, planning and program development was needed. Meeting this alignment need of their customers culminated in the creation of the WIN Strategic Compass® so that workforce, education and economic data is easily accessed and applied to initiatives to ensure program relevancy.

The Education Commission of the States (ECS) is an interstate compact created in 1965 to improve public education by facilitating the exchange of information, ideas and experiences among state policymakers and education leaders. As a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization involving key leaders from all levels of the education system, ECS creates unique opportunities to build partnerships, share information and promote the development of policy based on available research and strategies. Forty-nine states, three territories and the District of Columbia constitute the commission's current membership.

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