



# Why Bridging the Talent Gap?

## For Economic Development Organizations and Employers

**Welcome to Bridging the Talent Gap** — The Colorado Workforce Development Council, along with partners in the TalentFOUND network, is leading efforts to administer an employer and employee survey designed to understand the skills gaps Colorado businesses and workers are facing and identify how education and training programs can help close those gaps, including by increasing credential attainment.

**Be on the lookout for our survey to go live May 1st!**

**This effort is about gathering data that will help address skills shortages in Colorado.**

### Basics

- Human resource directors or those responsible for talent development at employers across Colorado will be asked to complete a 15-minute survey to understand the hiring environment, talent needs and current talent development focus in Colorado.
- Employers can choose to administer an employee survey to assess the needs and interests of their employees, and will receive individualized information.
- Everyone will be able to access interactive dashboards with regional data that can be benchmarked to the statewide and national responses.

**This data is not simply to have but to act upon.** It gives employers and employees a voice and helps Colorado ensure we develop lasting solutions for increasing attainment, meeting talent needs, and ensuring our state has a skilled and educated workforce. It also provides opportunities to increase equity and ensure more Coloradans prosper.

### What's in it for Economic Development?

- Employer survey engages industry partners and employers of all sizes and gives them the opportunity to communicate their talent needs
- Data dashboard equips your industry partners, employers, and other important stakeholders with the facts necessary to act on talent supply chain needs
- Statewide survey campaign brings awareness to talent development efforts and brings new organizations to the table who are ready to take action on your region's most important talent goals
- Provides data that will strengthen partnerships with local higher education institutions, community colleges, and other learning providers and ensure those partnerships prioritize the needs of your constituents



In addition to informing our TalentFOUND network, Bridging the Talent Gap Provides tools for you. The dashboards, which align with national data, can be used to understand what is happening within your industry and across industries with talent development. Check out an example of the tools by viewing the dashboard here: <https://bridgingthetalentgap.org/>

### What's In It For Employers?

- Allows your organization to communicate your organization's talent needs and learn how other organizations are addressing their needs
- Data dashboard reflects talent gap information about your local employer ecosystem
- Custom reports compare you to the statewide and national ecosystem of employers and other businesses of your size and industry sector
- Internal talent development solutions are identified using the expertise of the TalentFOUND network
- Partnerships with learning providers such as workforce development centers, higher education institutions, and technical and community colleges are discovered

### Timeline



### What's Next?

1. Fill out or have the person in charge of talent development at your organization fill out the survey: <https://bridgingthetalentgap.org/colorado-employer-survey/>
2. Download the outreach [toolkit](#) and help get the word out
3. Have us come present to your membership or the employers you represent
4. Checkout our website for more information and to see the results this fall: <https://tgnbttg1.wixsite.com/bttgcolorado>

Contact Katie Zaback [kathleen.zaback@state.co.us](mailto:kathleen.zaback@state.co.us) with any additional questions.