



## Educating and Upskilling Workers

**Career Online High School (COHS)** is an innovative online high school program that enables out-of-school youth and adults to earn an accredited high school diploma and foundational career skills. The program delivers competency-based instruction, 100% online, in a highly supportive learning environment. Students earn an AdvancED/SACS accredited high school diploma and a workforce certificate in 1 of 8 fields.

Office Management	Homeland Security
Child Care and Education	Certified Protection Officer
Commercial Driving	Professional Skills
Retail Customer Service	Food and Hospitality

### Program Benefits for Organizations

- Strengthens employee retention and recruitment strategy
- Expands options and career pathways for midskill employees
- Delivers organizations a social impact and community outreach solution that addresses the drop-out epidemic

### Program Highlights

- **24/7 Online Access**—students can earn diplomas at their own pace
- **AdvancED/SACS Accreditation**—students can transfer eligible credits from previous schools and apply for financial aid after graduation for post-secondary programs
- **Skills-Based, Career-Focused Curriculum**—students build skills that they'll need to succeed in the workforce
- **Individualized Support**—high touch student engagement model includes dedicated academic coaches, certified teachers, and engaged program staff



### Successful Outcomes

**2,600+** active students

**1,100+** graduates

**8-10** months average completion time

**72%** matriculate into a post-secondary program



*"I decided to go back to school not only to grow in my company, but also to make my family proud. It is never too late—I am 40 years old now, and it was not*

*too late for me—this program has made all of the difference."*

**Juan Garcia**

*McDonald's General Manager,  
COHS Graduate, and now  
College Student*

*"Smart Horizons is a proven, innovative, 21st-century solution...and we see COHS as an important new tool in our arsenal."*

**Todd Gustafson**

*Executive Director, Kinexus*

For more information contact

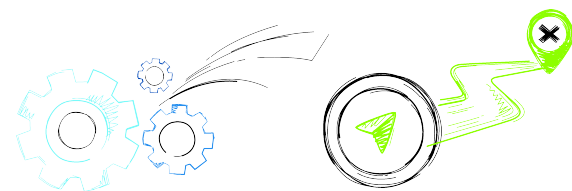
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## Evidence and Outcomes

**Evidence-Based Program:** COHS was developed for adult learners based on research regarding educational trauma and the three main reasons students drop out of school. COHS addresses these triggers to keep students engaged and working toward their high school diploma and career certificate through:

Issue	COHS Solution
<b>Lack of Applicability</b>	Students choose a career path and take those courses first. They re-engage into school by learning workforce skills that are relevant to their lives and professional plans.
<b>Fear of Failure</b>	Competency-based learning enables students to master one lesson at a time before continuing. They build confidence through small successes. Students must earn a 70% or higher on each assessment. They're presented with remedial instruction if necessary and can retake end-of-lesson exams until they are successful.
<b>Lack of Support</b>	Our student engagement model addresses the need for support. Students are connected to their dedicated coach via email, phone, text, and IM from day one to graduation.

### Major Partners



**Public Libraries:** Los Angeles • San Francisco • Sacramento • New Jersey State • Denver • San Diego  
New Orleans • Chattanooga • Cincinnati • Los Angeles County • Phoenix • Hartford

**Corporations:** Taco Bell • Walmart

**Career and Community Colleges:** Brown Mackie College • Ultimate Medical Academy • Tarrant Community College  
City College • Computer Systems Institute • Sullivan & Coglian Training Centers

**Correctional Institutions:** Florida Department of Corrections, at 15 facilities throughout the state

**Workforce Boards:** Chicago Cook Workforce • The Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County

**Non-Profit Organizations:** SER National • Project Hope Alliance • YouthBuild

## Building Momentum and Creating Scale through Collective Impact

**Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action:** In 2013, Cengage Learning joined the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), launching a groundbreaking scholarship-matching program that provided \$1 million to make scholarships available to students. By partnering on this CGI "Commitment to Action," over 20 partners have offered COHS. A new Commitment, focusing on Collective Impact Campaign in Detroit, will launch at CGI America 2015.

**White House Initiatives:** COHS participated in the 2014–2015 White House College Opportunity Summit and the 2015 White House Upskill America Summit highlighting our work with McDonald's, Walmart, and Taco Bell. McDonald's is currently offering COHS to all eligible corporate and franchise employees. The program with Walmart has reached over 1,300 employees to date through a prerequisite offering designed to re-engage adults in their education; the program has a robust class of 2015 students and graduates.