



PATHWAY **2** CAREERS

ESSER FUNDING

CAREER-CONNECTED MATH ALIGNS
WITH ESSER FUNDING PRIORITIES

WHAT IS ESSER?

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund is part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, established to provide relief to K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic (U.S. Department of Education, 2023). The funds provide schools and districts with an avenue to address key areas of need in support of their students, staff, families, and stakeholders. ESSER funds can be used for a wider range of purposes to support student academic achievement, including:

- Supporting academic recovery by accelerating learning to address learning loss.
- Includes technologies for educational interactions between students and their classroom instructors.
- Providing resources to implement afterschool programs and summer learning.
- Providing professional development for teachers and staff to enhance their skills and improve instructional practices
- Providing instructional materials and supplies to enhance the learning experience

ESSER Funding Supports Multiple Purposes



Educational Technologies

Technology for educational interactions in the classroom



Learning Programs

Implement afterschool programs and summer learning

Academic Recovery

Accelerate learning to address learning loss



Professional Development

Enhance teacher skills to improve instructional practices

Instructional Materials

Provide materials to enhance the learning experience



CALL TO ACTION

Students across the nation continue to struggle with math, with many falling behind during the pandemic (WestEd, 2021). In response to this challenge, the U.S. Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, has called for a renewed focus on math education. He has urged educators to “redouble our efforts to prioritize math teaching and learning, to address the needs of students who have fallen behind, and to build back better in math education” (U.S. Department of Education, 2021).



According to a 2022 Education Week report, *Two Decades of Progress Nearly Gone: National Math, Reading Scores Hit Historic Lows*, the pandemic has had a lingering and significant impact on student performance in math and reading.

28%
Proficiency in Math

Data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) shows that in 2021, just 37 percent of fourth graders and 28 percent of eighth graders scored at or above the proficient level in math, compared to 40 percent and 34 percent, respectively, in 2019, noting the pandemic has disproportionately impacted students from historically marginalized communities.

20
Years

The report states that the average math and reading scores for fourth and eighth graders in the United States have dropped to their lowest level in more than 20 years.

1

Recommended approach

The report further emphasizes the need for urgent action to address the learning loss caused by the pandemic, and suggests that innovative approaches, such as career-connected learning (CCL), as a solution to support student academic recovery.



CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING

P2C Math modernizes math by bringing comprehension to the forefront. When students find purpose in their learning, they perform better in school. The digital curriculum provides teachers with flexible delivery options to connect careers to math learning and demonstrate how mathematical concepts relate to real-world occupations.

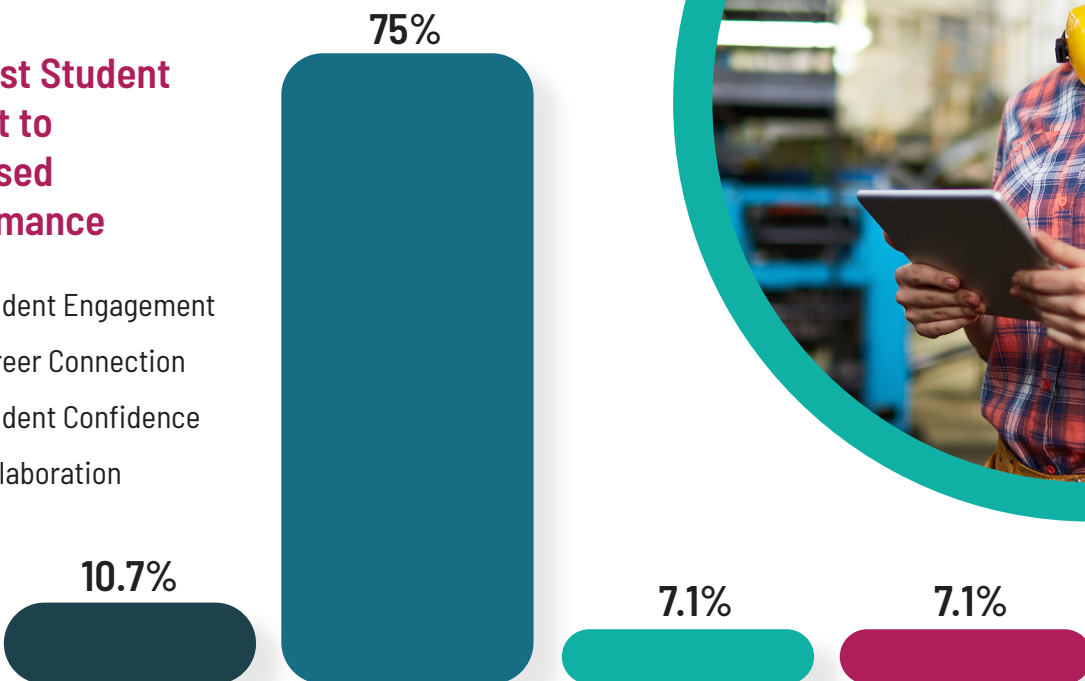
The comprehensive P2C Math allows students to interact with more than 650 unique jobs and receive an in-depth look at math concepts within a specific high-value career with nearly 200 application lessons. Lessons embed state-specific career data, such as salary projections and career outlook information allowing students to discover high-value careers from their region.

P2C Math incorporates a series of innovative assessments that reveal students' readiness to learn complex skills. The Quantile® Framework for mathematics also includes the Quantile® Career Database that shows students how to apply their current math aptitude and set pathway goals. This invaluable information increases students' awareness of the skills and concepts needed to reach their career goals.

In addition to math curriculum, P2C includes tailored career exploration. Designed for grades 6-12, guided exploration curriculum includes STEM career activities and financial literacy learning. By connecting learning to careers students can discover opportunities and create their path to success.

Greatest Student Benefit to Increased Performance

- Student Engagement
- Career Connection
- Student Confidence
- Collaboration





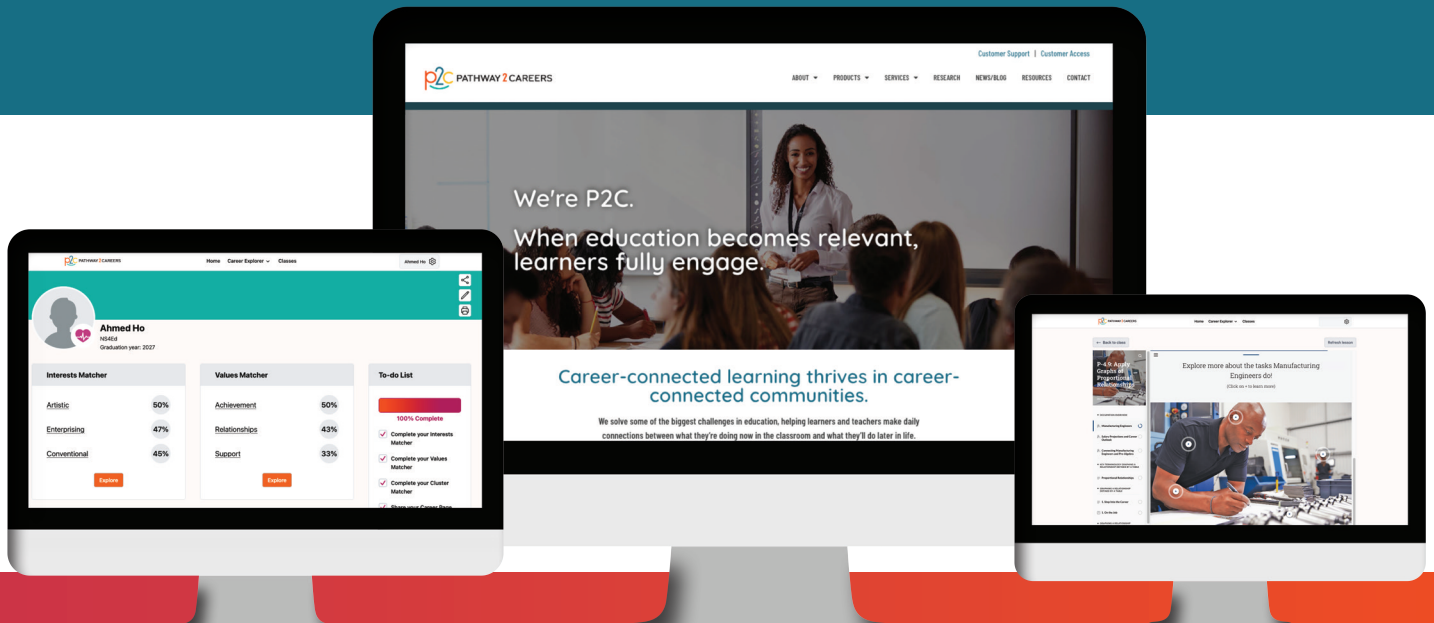
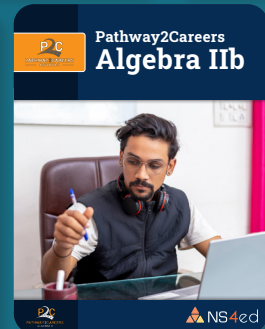
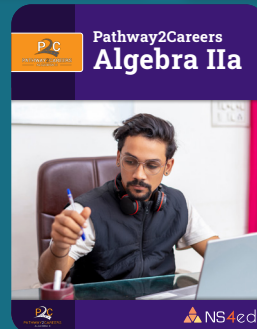
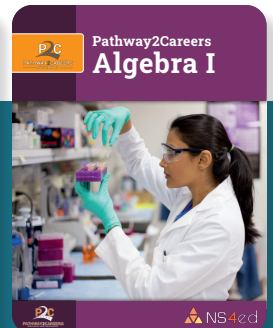
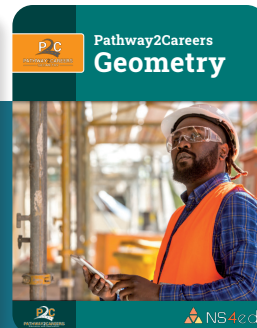
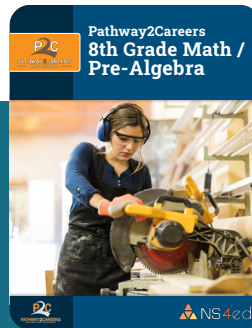
Education that improves attitudes and motivates students.

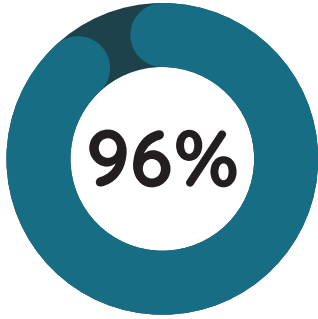
Authentic career readiness resources help students understand “the why behind the what,” and this realization can motivate them. Possibly the most popular question asked in math classrooms across the country is, “When will I ever use this?” We can help students connect mathematic and scientific concepts to use in hundreds of high-value careers and aid our students to find purpose. When they understand how they will use the mathematical skills, attitudes change, and performance improves.



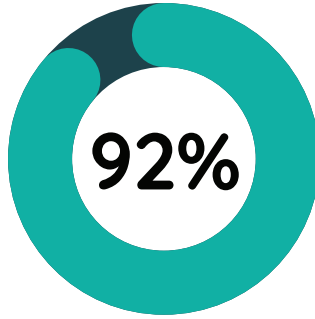
The real problem is changing the behavior the students have towards math. We keep trying to think up a better math problem, and we think that if we put it in a textbook, that’ll fix it. What we really have to do is take a step back and ask: ‘How do we engage students differently about mathematics?’

Dr. Joseph Goins
P2C CEO & Founder

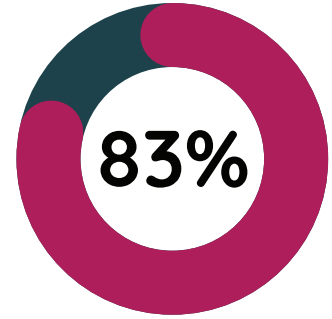




Reported the career content as interesting and engaging.



Observed an increase in math performance.



Reported an increased interest in career exploration.

What are teachers saying?¹



In 2018, Perkins V, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education Act for the 21st Century, updated the previous Carl D. Perkins Career Technical Education Act of 2006 to focus on the demands of regional workforces. With this new focus, federal and state funding recognize the importance of integrating education, the economy, and the workplace into CTE programs, preparing students for high-demand jobs (Comprehensive Local Needs, 2020). In addition, the Federal CTE funding under Perkins V directly addresses monitoring and improving the performance of historically under-served students, standing up to the inequalities and barriers erected for these students in the past (Alliance for Excellent Education, 2018).

P2C Math focuses on the intersection of the workplace and education, preparing all students for successful, lifelong careers. By providing equal opportunities and access to all students, P2C strives to close the performance gap and ensure equal opportunities for everyone.



At Cañon City High School, P2C Math is being used as a curriculum resource in a Pilot Program with our students needing intervention and engagement. In the one-quarter of use, the teachers report a noticeable increase in interest and engagement that comes from taking the time to introduce each major topic with an exploration of the use of mathematics in the topic as used in actual careers.

**William Summers, Principal
Douglas Freese, Math Teacher**

¹P2C Math was used as a pilot in New Mexico during the spring of 2021. Surveys were conducted to capture initial use classroom and provide teacher feedback regarding its benefits and weaknesses.

p2c



Get Started!

Ignite student learning and **close the gap between education and industry** with Pathway2Careers. Explore our solutions and bring career-connect learning to your students.

Learn more at p2c.org/get-started.





PATHWAY 2 CAREERS



We used to **tell** them what they would use math for, now we **show** them what the math is for.

Dr. Joseph Goins
P2C CEO & Founder

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