

North Alabama

**Workforce Summit  
Discussion Report Out**

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September 2015  
Regional Workforce Summit

# Question 1: What are our industry/occupation focus areas?

## Responses

- STEM
  - Research and Development
- Semiconductor (5 to 10 years down the road)
- Cyber Security
- Robotics
- Big data
  - Data Centers
  - Military
- Bioresearch
- Advance Manufacturing (3D Printing, Composites)
- Skilled Trades
  - Machinist
  - Welding
  - Construction
- HVAC
- Health Care
  - Mental Health
- Biomedical
- Teachers (STEM)
- Service Industries
- Communications
- Computer Applications / Software Development
- Supply Chain
- Business
  - Contracts specialist
  - Financial analyst
  - Human Resources

# Question 2: What organizations need to be involved? Who should take the lead?

## Responses

- **K-12\***
- **2 & 4 Year Colleges**
- **Chamber of Commerce\***
- **Economic Development Directors**
- **Regional Workforce Development Council\***
- **Business Owners and Industry Leaders\***
- **Elected Officials**
- **Redstone Arsenal**
- **Department of Commerce**
- **Professional Societies**
- **Intern Development Program (IDP)**
- **Career Centers**
- **Health Services**
- **Alabama Commission on Higher Education**
- **Media**
- **Community Centers**
  - **Boys and Girls Club**
  - **Church**
  - **Veterans Representatives**
- **Parents and Students**

\* Take the lead

# Question 3: How do we measure success? How do we incentivize success?

## Responses

- Test Scores
- Benchmark Gates Foundation
- Unemployment Rates
- Education Completion Rates
- Job Placement
- Education Enrollment
- Scholarships Awarded
- Involvement in Internships and Apprenticeship Opportunities
- Certificates and Degree
- Graduate Surveys
- Skill Gaps
- Retention of Young People
- Amount of Student Loan Debt
- Economic Growth
- Quality of Life
- Poverty Rate
- Workforce Retention
- Median Income

Incentives - Wide variety of responses were received. More data and analysis is needed

# Question 4: How should this effort be funded?

## Responses

- Industry Investments
- Taxes
- Scholarships
- Grants
- Tax Credits
- Lottery/Casinos
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- State Education Fund
- Percentage of HREGI (Chamber Investment Fund)
- Professional Organization Investments

# Polling

- Type in the following link:
  - <https://www.lsinc.com/chamber/>
- Select “Take the Survey”
- Touch, hold, and move selections to rank them in each question (Most preferred to least preferred)
- Provide “Other Responses” if needed
- Complete all questions
- Submit the Survey by clicking the Green Submit button at the end of the Survey