



## Building a Common Foundational Curriculum with Stackable Credentials

A new brief has been added to TCI's Strategies for Transformative Change series. This series provides summaries of strategies employed in Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grants, including evidence of success reported by consortia. The newest brief, *Building a Common Foundational Curriculum with Stackable Credentials*, focuses on the Arizona Sun Corridor-Get Into Energy Consortium (ASC-GIEC), which is a recipient of a round two grant.

The Consortium includes five community colleges and several industry partners across the state of Arizona working to strengthen and broaden the region's talent pipeline for the energy industry. Estrella Mountain Community College is the lead institution accompanied by Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Northland Pioneer College, Pima Community College and Yavapai College.

The centerpiece of the ASC-GIEC activities is the industry-vetted Get Into Energy (GIE) Competency Model, which was developed with input from industry partners. The team worked together to adapt a model from the Center for Energy Workforce Development to include essential skills needed by the energy industry in the region. Two foundational courses were developed that focus on early skill and knowledge mastery - Career and Personal Development (CPD), and Energy Industry Fundamentals (EIF). All students enrolled in a GIE program of study at any of the five colleges in the consortium are required to take the two foundational courses, which can be taken concurrently, and can typically be completed by a student in just one semester.

The Competency Model includes eight tiers of credentials that are stackable, with several exit and entry points. Students have opportunities to complete multiple credentials that articulate statewide to related associate degree programs.

[Read more about the Competency Model and learn about ASC-GIEC's committed employer engagement, sustainable programs, and pipelining strategies.](#)

[Read other briefs in the series.](#)

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*The Transformative Change Initiative is led by the Office of Community College Research and Leadership and The Collaboratory with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Lumina Foundation, and the Joyce Foundation.*

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