

**From:** Debra Lyons <[debra.lyons@act.org](mailto:debra.lyons@act.org)>  
**To:** Soura, Christian [ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov](mailto:ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov)  
**Date:** 4/24/2014 2:06:19 PM  
**Subject:** ACT Work Ready Communities updates - March data posted

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## ACT Work Ready Communities Employer Fast Facts

Chrysler Group, LLC of Toledo, Ohio is now recognizing the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate in support of Lucas County, Ohio becoming an ACT Certified Work Ready Community. Kudos to the Lucas County WRC Team!

Currently over 4500 employers across 14 participating states are publicly recognizing the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate in support of their county becoming a Certified Work Ready Community - 600 more employers than last month! Click [here](#) for more information on how employers may use the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate.

## Governor McAuliffe to certify participating Virginia counties

The Commonwealth of Virginia is implementing ACT Work Ready Communities through a local or regional economic development approach — utilizing Southern Virginia's Dan River Region as its pilot. In April 2014, the Commonwealth established its criteria consisting of the ACT Work Ready Communities Common Criteria and a threshold high school diploma or equivalent attainment rate of 70% or more of working adult population (ages 18-64). The Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia will certify localities or regions that meet established benchmarks for these criteria.

## New ACT WRC Counties added

Utah has onboarded Utah County to bring their total counties participating to eight - 28% of all the state's counties. Sweetwater County, Wyoming has joined the local county ACT WRC initiative. Its good to see Wyoming continuing their participation through a regional approach spearheaded by Sweetwater County. In other exciting news Indiana has successfully onboarded Delaware, Randolph and Rush counties.

## Avoyelles County, Louisiana reached 100% of its ACT Work Ready Communities goals

When March data was posted, Avoyelles County, Louisiana has become the first County Pilot County to reach 100% of its ACT WRC Common Criteria goals. To date they have earned 1016 ACT National Career Readiness Certificates and have 38 employers engaged.

## Next ACT Work Ready Communities Academy for counties

ACT will be looking to begin another Academy for counties Summer 2014. Currently, we are accepting **county applications** for this upcoming session. Counties will be accepting in the order their completed applications are received. Interested counties should contact [Tony.Garife@act.org](mailto:Tony.Garife@act.org).

## April NCRC data posted

We have updated the **CWRC website** with county-level National Career Readiness Certificate data through March 31, 2014. We publish the NCRC data at the state and county level to provide information to help economic developers and policy makers develop their workforce. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. To date, 108 counties where ACT Work Ready Communities Common Criteria goals are established are at 50 percent or more toward achieving their benchmarks! The top participating counties in terms of progress towards the common criteria goals are as follows:

### ACT WRC Certified Counties - April 2014

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The current information on Top 20 counties is as follows. Please note that the counties may have

achieved 100% of common criteria goals, but may not have accomplished the state goals and therefore not be considered a certified county.

## Top 20 Participating Counties Progress Toward Common Criteria Goals - April 2014

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Debra Lyons  
Vice President, Community and Economic Development  
ACT, Inc.  
[debra.lyons@act.org](mailto:debra.lyons@act.org)

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