

Where Are You — and What Do You Have?

Use this worksheet to take stock of your starting point and set realistic goals for 2026–2027.

Part 1: Connecting Back to the Opening Poll

The barrier(s) I identified in the poll:

Instructor bandwidth; policy and administrative factors; employer recruitment; assessment; student access; resources; other

One asset at my institution that could help address this barrier:

What do you already have in place that could help? (People, structures, momentum, policy)

Part 2: Anchor to Your Why

For your students, WBL matters because...

Think about who you serve — first-gen students, career-changers, students without networks. What does WBL make possible for them?

For your institution, the strategic case is...

What aligns WBL to your mission, strategic plan, or accountability goals? What makes this a priority, not just a program?

Part 3: Where Are You in the Process?

Check the stage that best describes where your institution is right now:

Listen & Learn

- Gathering faculty/staff input
- Auditing existing WBL activity
- Building the case for change
- Identifying early champions

Pilot

- WBL embedded in 1–2 courses
- Experimenting with employer engagement
- Early policy or procedure drafts
- Limited but growing buy-in

Scale, Refine & Assess

- WBL institutionalized
- WBL policy or formal requirement in place
- Broad instructional/employer engagement
- Tracking and assessing outcomes
- Iterating based on data and feedback

What is the evidence that tells you you're at this stage?

Part 4: What Do You Already Have?

Asset type	What exists at your institution?
Systems & Structures	e.g., curriculum review process, career-embedded advising tools...
Networks & Relationships	e.g., employer contacts, advisory boards, transfer partners, community orgs...
Champions & Allies	e.g., faculty leaders, deans, workforce board contacts, student affairs staff...
Policies & Mandates	e.g., strategic plan language, accreditation drivers, state/federal policy hooks...
Data & Evidence	e.g., completion data, employer surveys, student outcomes, equity gaps...

Part 5: Setting Realistic Goals for 2026–2027

Given your why, your stage, and your assets, what is realistic for next year?

Think about what you can realistically accomplish in 2026–27 given your bandwidth, institutional context, and where you are in the process.

My #1 goal for 2026–27: What does success look like?