



**September 27, 2017 - For Immediate Release**  
**Innovate+Educate**

**Press Contact:**

Paula Escuadra  
[paula@lrng.org](mailto:paula@lrng.org)

Nicole Tipton  
[nicole@innovate-educate.org](mailto:nicole@innovate-educate.org)

**LRNG and Innovate+Educate Announce Partnership to Pilot Competency-Based Assessment and Training Solutions For Young Adults to Continue to Have Career Success After Summer Employment Programs Ends**

**Chicago, IL September 27, 2017** - LRNG and Innovate+Educate (I+E) are pleased to announce a partnership that expands access to learning platforms, skills development, and assessments that benefit young people ages 14-22. Together, they will launch pilot programs in California and New York to assure youth are developing the competencies needed for success in the changing world of work.

Focusing on youth enrolled in Summer Youth Employment Programs, LRNG and I+E will support learning after the summer months by combining access to learning experiences, assessments and digital badging throughout the year. Through this collaboration, youth will be provided support to continue exploring the skills and passions seeded during their summer job.

I+E will provide their Core Score assessment and companion training to assure youth have the skills they need for successful employment in today's economy. LRNG will provide their state of the art learning and badging platform, which enables learners to connect with their passions, explore pathways, earn badges, and gain employer recognized credentials.

The partnership's goal is to assess, train, and provide valuable credentials for 2000 youth. Youth will be able to explore their career interests, understand career pathways available to them, and receive badges/credentials that will be valuable in their future education and career journey. Employers will be a key part of the pilots in recognizing those skills that the youth receive through assessment and training. Pilot programs will launch in both cities in 2018.

###



**About LRNG powered by Collective Shift:**

**LRNG** aims to close the opportunity gap and transforms how young people access and experience learning and the paths they can take to success. With support from John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and by working together with schools, city leaders, businesses and community institutions such as libraries and museums, LRNG is building an ecosystem of learning that combines in-school, out-of-school, employer-based and online learning experiences into a seamless network that is open and inviting to all youth.

**About Innovate + Educate:**

Innovate+Educate is a national nonprofit focused on creating multiple pathways to employment based on skills and competencies. Their vision is in leading an employer-driven shift in assessing, hiring, training and advancing, ultimately opening up access to millions of jobseekers not seen through traditional hiring methods. Innovate+Educate is located in Santa Fe, New Mexico with offices and consultants located across the U.S.