

FAQ

Project Lead the Way & Real World Learning

Project Lead The Way provides value to our regional education system and Real World Learning. This value is recognized whether the output is a strong scaffolding experience, or a recognized Market Value Asset. Considering the significant regional participation in PLTW, this document serves to provide clarity as to how this program fits into the MVA framework.

Below are some common questions and ideas about how PLTW can be extended into MVA-level experiences. Here is a link to MVA definitions to support the understanding of MVA requirements.

Does completion of a Project Lead the Way pathway equal an MVA?

As a general rule, MVAs are earned via student experiences and not programs students are enrolled in. Completion of a PLTW pathway may not always include MVA-level experiences, so does not automatically count as an MVA. However, PLTW courses and pathways have high potential to extend and include MVA experiences (see examples below).

Does Project Lead the Way meet the requirements for Client Connected Projects?

There is opportunity for instructors to incorporate CCPs into their coursework, however it isn't a standard component of the PLTW curriculum. Student output should be reviewed against the requirements for a client-connected project:

Work involves authentic methods and tools used by professionals in work environments, the experience includes mentoring and evaluation by working professionals and the output is viewed as value-add by external stakeholders and resume-worthy.

Does Project Lead the Way meet the requirements for College Credit MVA?

PLTW courses with articulated post-secondary credit are an opportunity for students to earn credit toward the nine credit MVA threshold if the student passes the end of course exam.

Does Project Lead the Way meet the requirements for Industry-Recognized Credentials?

PLTW courses that offer a regionally-vetted IRC are an opportunity for students to earn an MVA if they successfully complete the items required to receive the industry credential. The process for vetting is currently underway with an updated, regionally-vetted IRC list expected in Spring 2021. Until new data is available, currently recognized IRCs will count as MVAs.

Does Project Lead the Way meet the requirements for Entrepreneurial Experiences?

The Engineering Design and Development capstone can be a great opportunity for some students to earn an MVA. The student will need to demonstrate evidence they have met the criteria as outlined in the Entrepreneurial Experience MVA:

Students identify a compelling social or market problem and mobilize resources to solve it, resulting in output/products validated by multiple stakeholders, which could include a provisional patent, revenue generation, and/or integration into the marketplace.

How are MVA criteria decisions governed?

The recently formed regional RWL Executive Committee is responsible for maintaining MVA definitions as well as other common language. The committee will look at a variety of data (student attainment and access as well as stakeholder experience and student outcomes) to signal when changes are needed and will update accordingly.

FAQ developed by the RWL team with the assistance of the KC Stem Alliance.



