

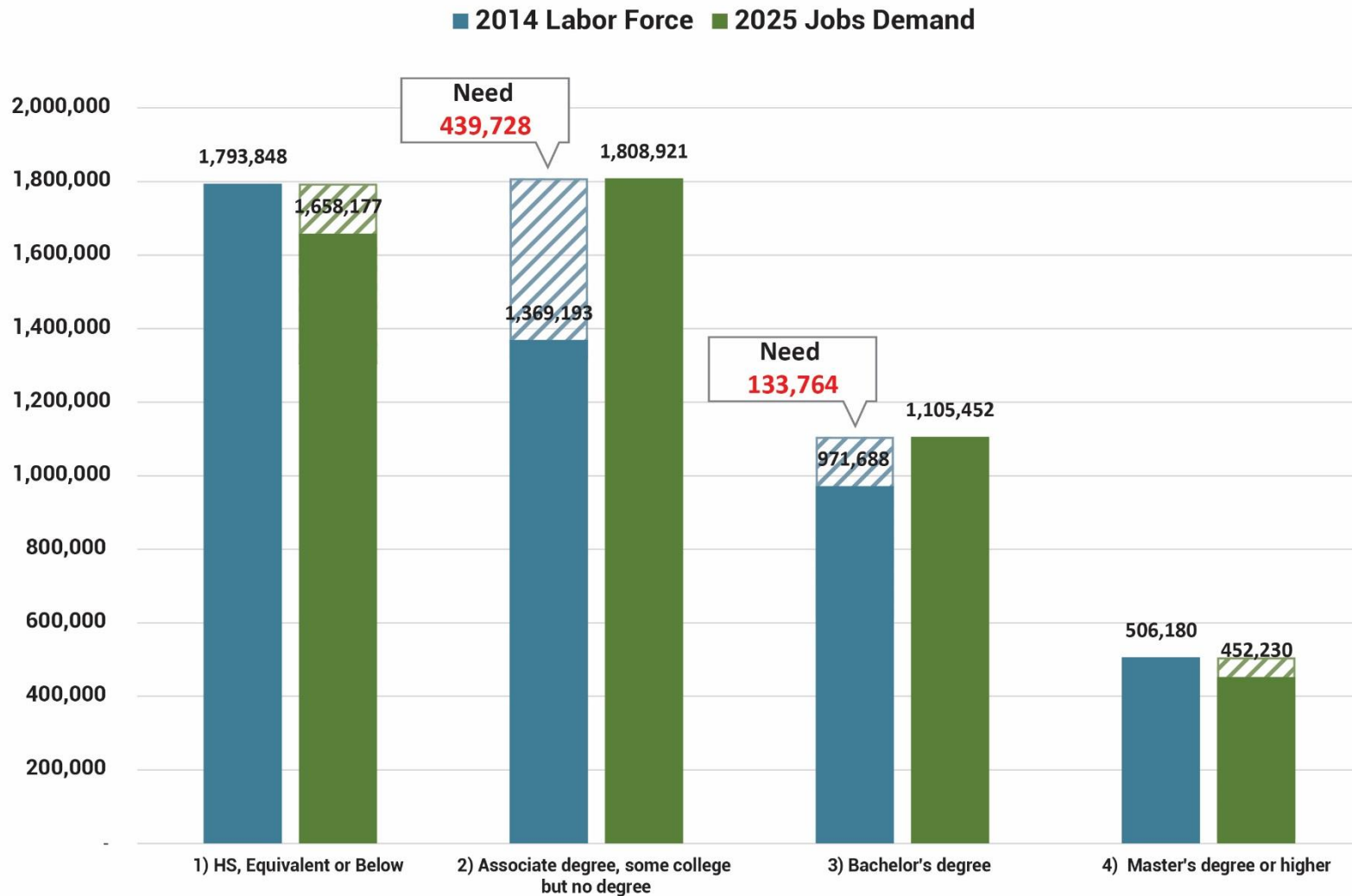
Competency-Based Education

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Chief Academic Officer

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North Carolina Community College System

North Carolina Current Worker Supply vs. Future Job Demand by Educational Attainment



Competency-Based Education

Education delivery that uses the mastery of competency- not seat time - as the **sole** means of determining student success

Credit Hour

**One hour of class per week, per
term**

(grades connect learning to time)

Adult Learners

Know different things
Learn at different rates

Few Students Have the “Traditional” College Experience



Only 14% of all undergraduates attend full time and live on campus.

*Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, NPSAS: 2008 Undergraduate Students.
Quoted from “Cracking the Credit Hour”, Amy Laitenen (September 2012), New America Foundation and Education Sector*

Strategic Efforts



A system-wide strategic focus to increase student success, access and program excellence.

#Align4NCWorks

Align4NCWorks is the NC Community College System's strategic initiative for collaborative workforce development.

Support

North Carolina's goal of having 67 percent of working-aged North Carolinians with education and training beyond high school by 2025

Student Success Strategies

- **Direct students to make informed decisions**
- **Direct students through programs that lead to valuable credentials, without unnecessary detours**
- **Provide targeted supports and interventions when they are most effective**

Competency-Based Education

- Measures learning rather than time
- Allows students to apply what they've learned, either through formal education or their work and life experience.
- Allows students to move quickly through material they already know and focus on what they still need to learn

NC-CBE Project

- **North Carolina Competency-Based Education Project**
 - **Central Piedmont Community College (lead)**
 - **Stanly, Forsyth, Wake, System Office**
 - **Co-invent solutions and define a new learning and business model that is sustainable and scalable to all community colleges**

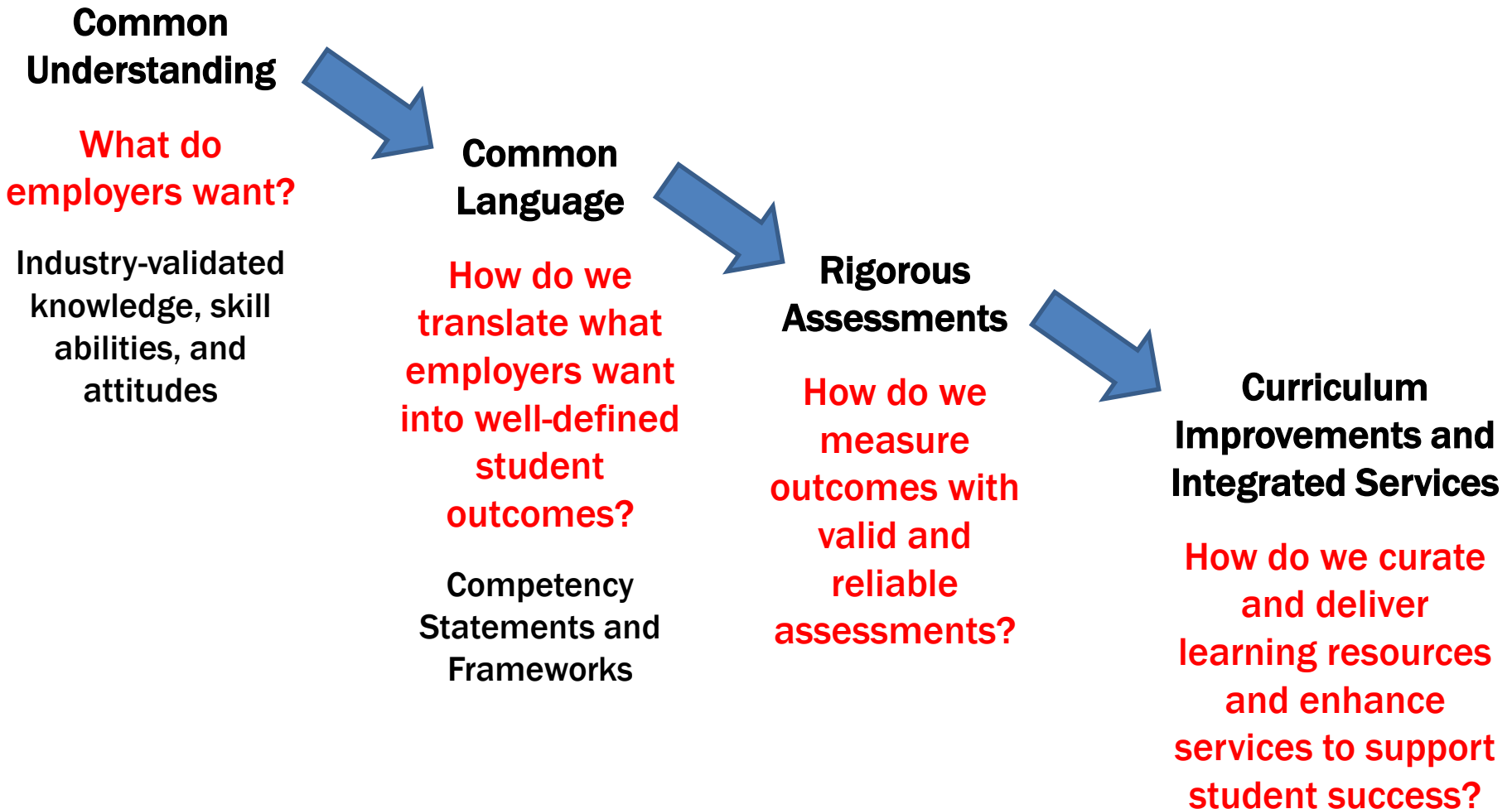
The NC-CBE Project 2015 -2017

- **Stage 1: Research & Design** **2014-2015**
- **Stage 2: Develop & Implement** **2016-2017**
- **Stage 3: Evaluate & Scale** **2017**

Stage 1: Design

- Self-paced, blended approach
- Clear faculty and industry partner agreement on:
 - Course competencies for all sections and classes
 - Definitions of mastery
 - Contextualized coursework
- State-of-the-art assessment instruments & tracking tools
- Clarity about student expectations & enhanced student support
- Innovative, technology-based delivery models

CBE Program Development Process



Stage 2: Develop and Implement



THE NC-CBE PROJECT
BUSINESS & LEARNING PLAN
2016-2017

Meet with Partner College & NCCCS Leadership (Dec-Jan)
Begin to Build AASPI Pathway (January 2016)

- ▶ Review the Plan & Renew Commitment
- ▶ Design Team Approach
- ▶ Identify Design & Implement Teams & Leadership Roles
- ▶ NCCCS Presidents Association & Committees (Jan.)
- ▶ Cross College Teams of Expertise
- ▶ Engage College Teams in Curriculum Redesign
- ▶ Involve more NCCCS colleges
- ▶ UNC-GA and DPI Leadership (On-going)
- ▶ WGU Partners (On-going)
- ▶ Funders – Federal, State, Private Foundation (On-going)

Higher Education Today

- **Seat Time Drives Our Complex Systems:**
 - Awarding Credit to Students
 - Allocating Funds to Colleges
 - Determining Faculty Pay
 - Awarding Financial Aid
- **Seat Time Does Not Drive *Learning***

Time is Fixed Learning is Variable

Challenges of Designing CBE Programs

- Designing valid and reliable assessments to determine mastery of competencies
- Modifying instructional delivery model to enable self-paced student progress
- Adapting student supports

....and that may be the easy part!

Challenges of Designing CBE Programs

- **Adapting funding formulas to CBE**
 - Current definition of FTE is based on seat time
- **Rethinking how colleges deploy resources**
 - Faculty roles and pay
 - Staffing models
- **Enabling flexibility within the academic calendar**
 - Registration
 - Financial aid
- **Using technology to support CBE at scale**
 - Track student progress, adaptive learning
 - Interoperability with our “core” ERP system

Short Session Budget Request

- **\$500,000 NR to support NC-CBE Project**
 - Funds to support partner college personnel and operating expenses related to CBE activities
 - Technical assistance
 - Technology
- **Long Session budget request will depend on outcome of design work**