PASSPORT TO SUCCESS®
Preparing Young People for the World of Work

ternational youth foundation®
“The talent gap is one of the most important issues facing businesses, governments, and communities today, and is a direct contribution to the high youth unemployment rate.”

CHRISTOPHER J. NASSETTA
CEO, Hilton Worldwide
Leaders in education, business, and government agree that “soft skills” training is one of the missing links contributing to today’s talent gap. However, such programming is often scattered, insufficient or non-existent, leaving too many young people unprepared to get—and keep—a job.

In 2004, the International Youth Foundation (IYF) partnered with the GE Foundation to develop Passport to Success® (PTS)—a unique skills training program that is helping educational institutions, businesses, and governments bridge the skills gap between current employment opportunities and today’s young job seekers.

“Why invest in life skills? It came out of our research. IYF presented data for India that showed life skills are an important ingredient to successful employment. So IYF helped build and develop a curriculum to assist youth to get jobs and keep them and also succeed beyond the workplace.”

ROGER NOZAKI
Associate Dean, Brown University, and former Executive Director, GE Foundation

DEMAND

By 2020
85 MILLION jobs will go unfilled due to lack of skilled workers

54% of employers say skills gap impairs their ability to serve clients to a high or medium degree

77% of US employers believe that soft skills are just as important as hard skills

64% of CEOs report creating a skilled workforce is a priority for their organization over the next 3 years

SUPPLY

1.2 BILLION young people ages 15–24

40% of the world’s unemployed are youth

Every year
120 MILLION young people enter the workforce, yet 80% of them can’t find work

621 MILLION young people are not in school, jobs, or training

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS® GETS YOUNG PEOPLE JOB READY

PTS equips young people ages 15 to 29 with the skills that help keep them in school and are in high demand by employers. At the core of the program is an 80-module curriculum developed and refined by IYF over the past decade. Today, PTS has been adapted and delivered in 30 countries and is available in 19 languages.

Through the course, PTS trainees gain skills in ten key areas that experts agree are critical to effective life skills programming:

- Self-confidence
- Conflict management
- Anger management
- Career planning
- Responsibility
- Job preparation
- Respect
- Workplace readiness
- Cooperation and teamwork
- Project planning

“With over a decade of experience, I have never learned as much in terms of teaching pedagogy and techniques than I have during this training. PTS is helping a lot in my class. I have no difficulty managing my class, dividing my students into different working groups, and boosting their participation which facilitates my work enormously.”

Ndiaga Ndiaye
Teacher, Kolda, Senegal

\(^5\)Compared to national average of 19%;
\(^6\)When measured against comparison groups not in the life skills program;
\(^7\)Including their future job prospects.

**SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND ON THE JOB**

PTS equips young people ages 15 to 29 with the skills that help keep them in school and are in high demand by employers. At the core of the program is an 80-module curriculum developed and refined by IYF over the past decade. Today, PTS has been adapted and delivered in 30 countries and is available in 19 languages.

Through the course, PTS trainees gain skills in ten key areas that experts agree are critical to effective life skills programming:

- Self-confidence
- Conflict management
- Anger management
- Career planning
- Responsibility
- Job preparation
- Respect
- Workplace readiness
- Cooperation and teamwork
- Project planning

\(^5\)Compared to national average of 19%;
\(^6\)When measured against comparison groups not in the life skills program;
\(^7\)Including their future job prospects.
“We enrolled students in the life skills club who were at the point of being expelled from school. They became much more disciplined and often took the initiative in managing conflicts. Their academic performance has also improved. The club has saved these students from the streets and its dangers.”

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER
Fez, Morocco
“The exposure that PTS graduates had to real world job skills made them distinctly different than other new staff members coming in. It was incredibly valuable for my department to have a student from this program.”

LUCILIA SIMON
Medical Secretary, St. Jude’s Hospital, Saint Lucia
PTS training has been adapted to build young people’s skills in a variety of formats and settings, including public and private secondary schools, vocational technical institutes, colleges, businesses, and youth-serving nonprofit organizations.

- **On the job:** IYF works with businesses to include life skills as part of their new employee orientation and on-boarding. Lessons are selected to meet specific employer needs. This model encourages retention of entry-level employees as they adjust to their new workplace.

- **Post-secondary education:** IYF works with universities, technical schools and vocational training providers to tailor a life skills training schedule for their students. Trainees receive two to three lessons each week, spread over a semester, giving them the chance to practice their skills as a complement to their regular classes.

- **Secondary schools:** IYF works with middle schools and high schools to provide a selection of life skills lessons after school or staggered over the academic year.

- **Stand-alone:** IYF works with community-based organizations to offer a minimum of 30 life skills lessons over a six- to eight-week period. This most intensive application complements basic education, technical or entrepreneurship trainings.

“It was very helpful to have both the personal and job-related skills, so now I feel more confident. I learned how to talk with people on the phone, how to work with people, how to dress for work, all this helps me in the work environment.”

CELIA HERNANDEZ VEGA, 21
Hired at “Global Soft” computer services company as a result of her IYF training in Tehuacan, Mexico.
PTS places a premium on high-quality instruction, and all PTS trainers must satisfy rigorous certification requirements. Prospective trainers are equipped to deliver innovative, interactive activities that capture young people’s imaginations and allow them to practice, question, and understand expectations.

Before certification, trainers receive 32 hours of in-depth life skills training, including hands-on instruction on the implementation of experiential teaching methodologies. To ensure mastery of the material and training techniques, trainers receive ongoing support through an IYF-certified coach over a two- to three-month period as they deliver the lessons in the classroom.

To date, IYF has developed a pool of 3,500 trainers and 150 master trainers to deliver PTS in all regions of the world.

“*We wanted to build positive life skills programs for and with young people, but when we began, we didn’t know what our best approach might be. The International Youth Foundation ranked high on our list of prospective global partners. Their core values fit with ours.*”

MARTIN SANDELIN
Former Vice President, Corporate Responsibility and Community Involvement, Nokia, Finland

Globally, PTS participants report significant gains in communication, cooperation, and employment skills.

Globally, young men report acquiring new workplace skills including anger management, interview skills and respect for others.

In India

62% of graduates were working 6–9 months after completing PTS

Compared to 17% in a comparison group
"If it weren’t for programs like Passport to Success®, youth wouldn’t have the confidence to stand up and speak. It’s astonishing how much effort these youth are putting into changing their lives."

MAYS ARAB
Business Development Manager
Luminus Group, Jordan
“Hilton Worldwide is leading efforts to train young men and women for careers in the service and hospitality sector. PTS expands employment opportunities for youth and contributes to the growth of our localization efforts, our business, and the industry.

AYMAN MADKOUR, Country Learning and Development Manager, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Hilton Worldwide
SUPPORTERS OF IYF LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

Targets youth 15–29 years old
Consists of 80 modules
Translated into 19 languages
Implemented in 30 countries
Delivered by 3,500 trainers
Supported by 150 master trainers
Over 85,000 young people trained so far

Alcatel-Lucent  Barloworld Equipment  CATERPILLAR®  Cummins®  GE Foundation
HARRY WINSTON  HILTON WORLDWIDE  Luminus Education  The MasterCard Foundation
Microsoft  NOKIA  Saudi Aramco  Oiltech®  USAID
Walmart  MEPI  THE WORLD BANK  WRIGLEY
About the International Youth Foundation

The International Youth Foundation (IYF) is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering today’s young men and women to be productive, engaged citizens. Foundational to that mission is Passport to Success® (PTS), a world-class life skills curriculum originally developed with generous support from the GE Foundation. Now adapted and implemented in every corner of the globe, PTS is a catalyst for change, helping young people achieve success in school, work, and life.

To learn more about Passport to Success®:
PTS@iyfnet.org