



The Career Readiness Certificate...

- Serves as a standard measurement of basic workplace skills
- Identifies core employability skills required across multiple industries and occupations
- Serves as a portable credential that easily moves to employment opportunities within or outside of S.C.

Are You the Right Candidate for the Job??

By Barbara Martin, ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager

WorkKeys is rapidly becoming the nationwide standard for measuring and communicating basic workplace skills. WorkKeys assessment tool measures “real world” skills that employers believe are critical to job success. The system is designed to match prospective employees to jobs and careers.

WorkKeys is currently in use in all 50 states and internationally. WorkKeys was developed by ACT, Inc., the creators of the ACT Assessment® college entrance exam. Many companies right here in South Carolina use WorkKeys as a part of their hiring process. Some of the companies included are Westinghouse, Siemens, Pella, Trane, Bose, and Invista. Bonnie Campbell, Square D Human Resources Representative, states, “our company has used WorkKeys for several years and found that it is a very helpful tool in determining if a candidate will be successful in performing their jobs.” **She added that applicants who have this credential when applying for jobs gives them a “leg-up” in the hiring process and will look good on their resume.** Keith Merrifield, Garlock Helicoflex Operations Manager in Columbia stated, “The hiring, training and subsequent productivity, happiness and retention of our employees are the foundation of our business. It’s the reality of manufacturing today. ““Our experience with Work Keys so far is really exciting,” Merrifield said, “The ability to objectively assess a job and the skills required to succeed at that job is a huge step forward for us.” Traditionally we've made a lot of subjective "guesses" and haven't always been able to match people to jobs or identify the training needed to promote the success of our employees.