



**Kris Freeman**  
**Executive Director**  
**Youthentity**  
Building the Next Generation of  
Local Talent





McKinsey estimates businesses spend **\$3.4 billion annually on remedial training for poorly prepared hires** and face a **15% productivity decline** in the first year.





Nationally, just **45% of teens** aged 13–18 have taken a personal finance class, though **42%** remain terrified they won't have enough money for the future.

(PR Newswire)





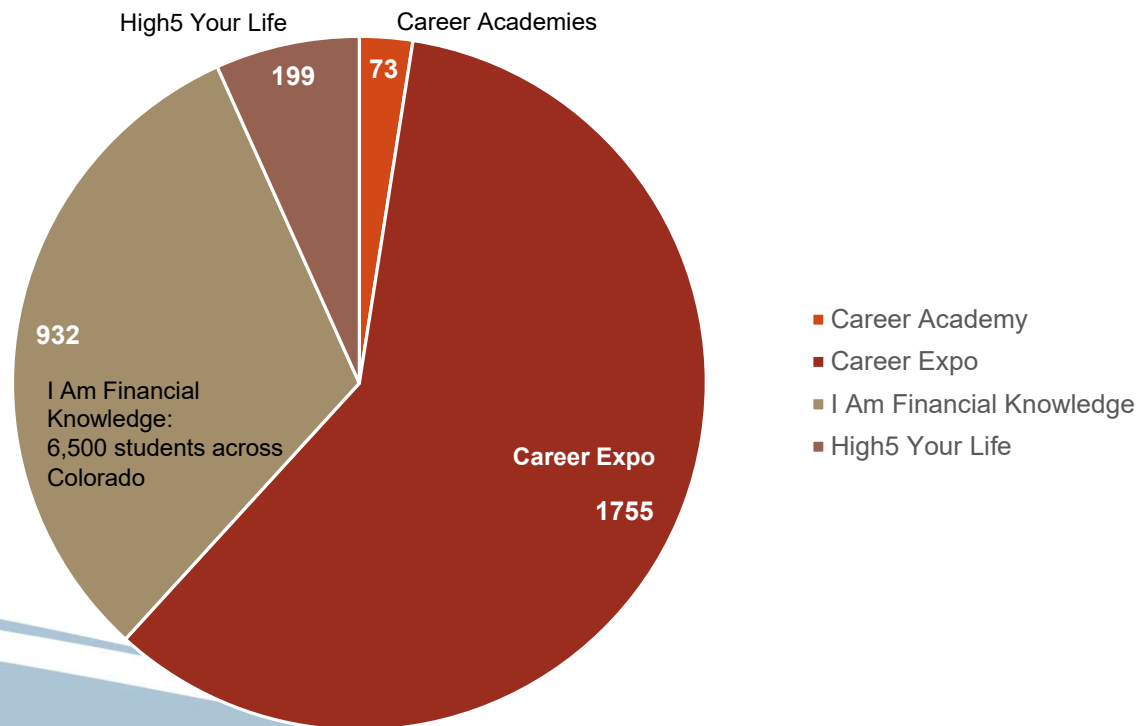
## Youthentity

Our programs aim to help young people develop real-world skills including **financial literacy** and **career readiness** to prepare them for stable, successful futures.





2,959 Garfield County students served 2024- 2025





Studies show that a semester of personal finance education can yield a **lifetime benefit of \$116,000** per student in Colorado.

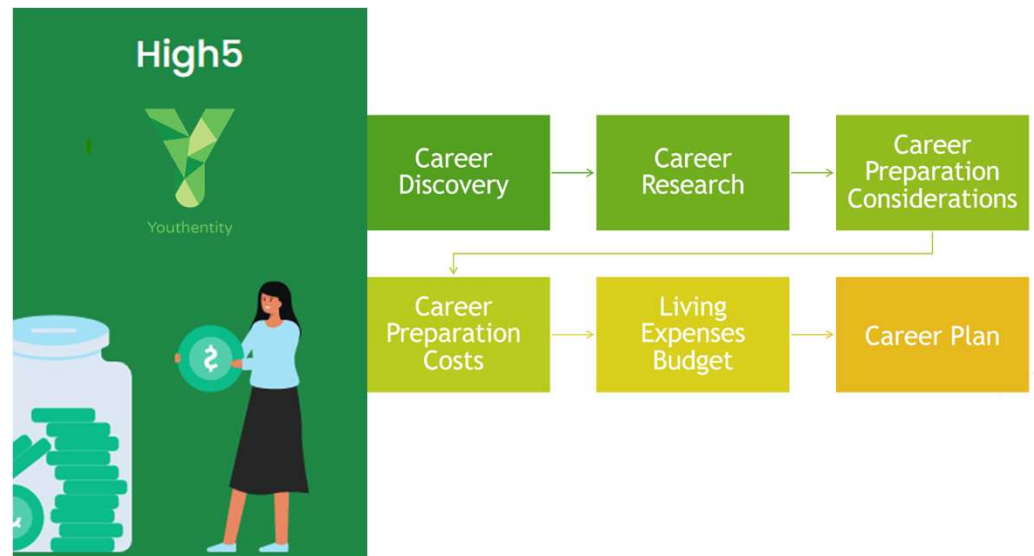
[\(The Colorado Sun\)](#)







## Financial Literacy





Students with targeted career education are **30% more likely to secure full-time employment within one year** of graduation.  
(Columbia School)







## Career Readiness

The Youthentity Career Academy provides high school students with hands-on career exploration and real-world skills, helping them gain an edge for their future.



### Full Year Programs:

Construction  
Culinary & Hospitality

### Semester Programs:

Animal Care  
Health Occupations  
Real Estate, Finance & Entrepreneurship





## Career Readiness

Partnering for success:

Concurrent Enrollment, High School Credit & Industry Certifications





Youthentity Career Expo  
Thursday October 2, 2025  
Garfield County Fairgrounds  
7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Register / Sponsor:  
[Bret@youthentity.org](mailto:Bret@youthentity.org)

High Schools  
Coal Ridge  
Grand Valley  
Meeker  
Rifle







# Youthentity

## Youth Panel: What Today's Students Need from Tomorrow's Economy

