

**2015
AWARD
WINNER**

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

**Transportation,
Distribution & Logistics
CAREER CLUSTER**

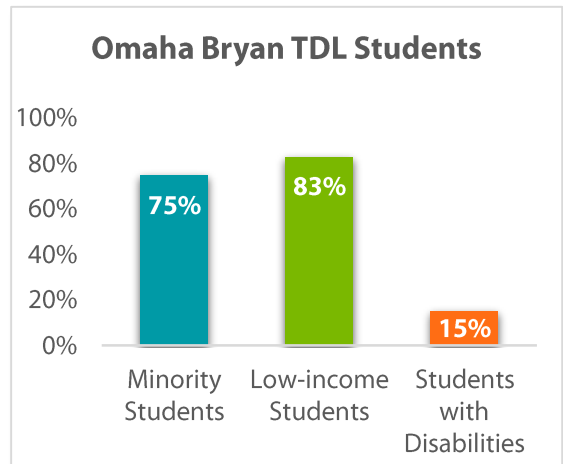


BACKGROUND

Only in its third year, the **Transportation, Distribution and Logistics (TDL) Academy** at **Omaha Bryan High School (OBHS)** in Omaha, Nebraska is a four-year program of study that utilizes a career academy approach to integrating career instruction with core academic content in a small learning community. All students have the opportunity to participate in work-based learning and earn dual credit at Metropolitan Community College.

MAKING THE CASE

This program of study was developed based on the [Nebraska State Model Program of Study](#), and was designed to meet a labor market need. According to the Nebraska Department of Labor, Transportation, Distribution & Logistics is one of the **fastest growing Career Clusters®** in the state with skilled employees in this field in high demand; OBHS now provides a direct pipeline into this growing career field.



GRADUATING WITH THE TOOLS THEY NEED

Students are prepared for postsecondary education and careers by gaining knowledge and skills specific to the needs of industry partners. Students have the opportunity to earn **three certifications** including OSHA 10 Hour General Industry, Lift Truck and ASE Introduction to Automotive Service Certifications, which provide immediate employment opportunities. They are able to secure jobs that provide a livable, sustainable wage while in high school or immediately after graduation.

However, if students choose to go onto postsecondary education, they can earn up to **13.5 college credits** through Metropolitan Community College in the distribution and logistics pathway. To further break down barriers to entering postsecondary education, students are able to apply for reduced course rates and scholarships to Nebraska colleges and universities.

"This program of study exposes students to a wide variety of career opportunities they didn't know existed. They can go from high school to a career that's high-wage and high-demand, but are also prepared for postsecondary education."

**Mary Miller, Curriculum Specialist,
Omaha Bryan Senior High School**

"TDL can help prepare you for life in many ways even if you don't want to be in a career where trucking or big machinery is involved. Some skills I have learned in TDL would be deadlines, listening and working with people you may not even know. The TDL academy has a lot of partnerships here that could get you a great job right after high school."

Monica S., Omaha Bryan High School Student

SUCCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

The TDL program of study can point to a number of reasons for the program's success despite only being three years-old, but partnerships are at the top of the list. A partnership with the Nebraska Trucking Association, who advocates fiercely for the program, has led to calls and emails from people across the state wanting to learn more. In addition, the Omaha Truck Center has offered numerous scholarships and internships along with donating materials and tools to help support the program's growth and success.



OBHS is one of only 16 secondary distribution centers for FirstBook®, a book bank located in Washington, D.C., that supplies books to approximately 3,500 educational organizations across the United States. As a required capstone experience, students in the program manage the entire distribution process and have received, processed and **distributed over 250,000** books this school year alone for FirstBook® to Omaha area libraries, community centers, classrooms and community functions throughout the metro area.

STUDENT SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

So what does this all mean? The data for 2013-14 show that this blossoming program of study is not only preparing students for successful careers, but filling the skills gap in one of the fastest growing industries in the state.

