



A Promise for Equitable Futures: Enabling Systems Change to Scale Educational and Economic Mobility Pathways

December 3, 2020





Welcome

- **Introduce yourselves.**
 - Share who you are, where you are from, and one hope you have for this school year.
- **Ask and answer questions.**
 - Use the chat function to pose questions of our panelists. All attendees are encouraged to respond.
 - We will leave time for our panelists to answer questions.
- **Share your learning.**
 - Tell your colleagues what you are learning. Use #Aurora2020 on Twitter and mention @Aurora_Inst.
- **We are recording and archiving the webinar.**
 - The slides and video will be available on aurora-institute.org.

A Promise for Equitable Futures: Enabling Systems Change to Scale Educational and Economic Mobility Pathways



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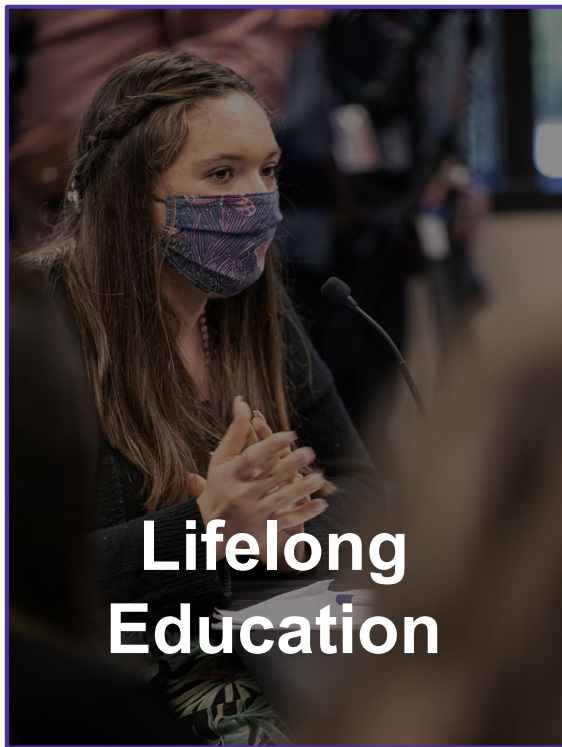


Written by
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October 2020

Designing the Next Century of Education



The Learner Promise

Every learner will have access and support to discover purpose, self-determine, and pursue a certified pathway toward a meaningful, chosen career which will build social and economic capital over the course of their lives.

Systems Change

Advancing equity by shifting
the conditions that are holding
a problem in place

Institutional ➤ **Learner Centered**



- Learner Interest, Purpose, & Occupational Identity
- Learner Agency & Determination
- Youth Power & Leadership
- Comprehensive Learner Records

Institutional ➤ Learner Centered

Comprehensive Learner Record



Disconnected ► Relational



- Situated Mentorship & Advisement
- Social Capital
- Community Cultural Wealth

Disconnected ► Relational



Flo
Beyond 12 College Coach

beyond12

Success in College. Success for Life.

Schooling ► Learning



- K-12, PS, Work & Community Learning
- Deep & Applied Experiences
- Integrated Programs of Study

Schooling ► Learning

LRNG

Approach

Platform

About

BLOG

CONTACT

ACCESS THE PLATFORM ➞

Our Approach

Imagine a world where all learners have an opportunity to thrive.

At LRNG, we believe learners can best define their purpose when they are at the center of learning. LRNG expands access to meaningful employment and education by providing engaging experiences at the intersection of work and learning, and collaborating with communities to create conditions for learner success.

As the community impact arm of SNHU, LRNG works with local government, employers, the public library systems, community colleges, or other local partners to open the door to new opportunities for residents and help close workforce gaps. Major national employers such as Amazon Web Services and Unity Technologies are joining in the effort, assisting in various ways with talent development needs.

At a time when many believe higher education inhabits the rigidly defined space between high school and workforce, we are redefining the boundaries and creating personalized pathways that give learners just the right learning, at just the right time, at just the right place in their lives.

Narrow ► Competency Based



- Integrated Academic, Professional & Personal Competency Frameworks
- Credit for Anywhere Anytime Learning
- Application & Transfer Between Environments
- Assessment for Learning

Narrow ► Competency Based

Profile of a Virginia Graduate

- Increased career exposure, exploration, and planning
- Increased opportunities for internships and work and service-based learning experiences to achieve workplace and citizenship skills
- Changes to Virginia's graduation requirements



Variable ► Certified



- Universal Qualification Frameworks
- Universal Credentials and Recognition of Learning

Variable ► Certified

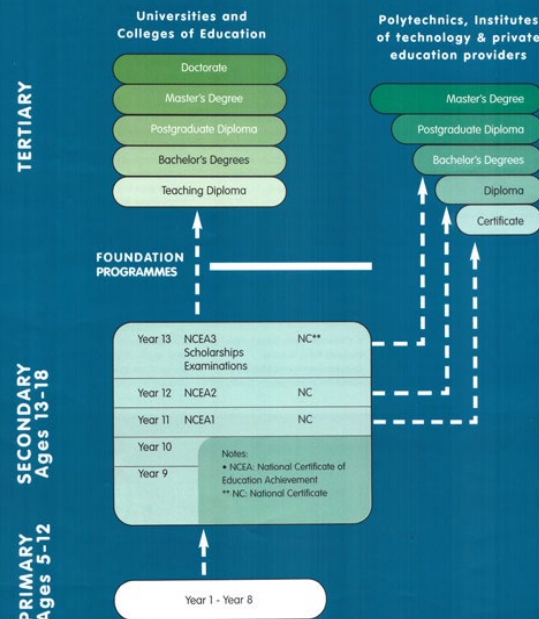
NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATION TYPES

LEVEL

- 1** Certificates
- 2** Certificates
- 3** Certificates
- 4** Certificates
- 5** Certificates and diplomas
- 6** Certificates and diplomas
- 7** Graduate certificates, graduate diplomas and Bachelor's degree
- 8** Postgraduate certificates, postgraduate diplomas and Bachelor's Honours degrees
- 9** Master's degrees
- 10** Doctoral degrees



the new zealand education system



Siloed ➤ Cooperative



- Cross-Sector Governance
- Representative Leadership
- Aligned Funding, Measures & Incentives
- Integrated Data Systems

Siloed ► Cooperative



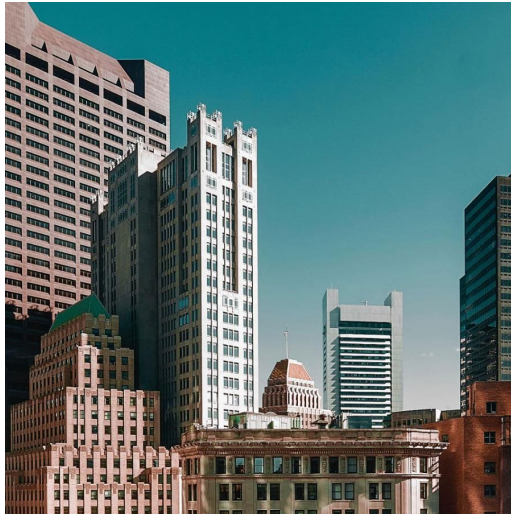
Predictive ► Equitable



- Equitable Access
- Resource Equity
- Culturally Responsive & Empowering Pedagogy
- Expansive Social and Economic Policy

Predictive ► Equitable

PolicyLink



All-In Cincinnati: Equity Is the Path to Inclusive Prosperity

PolicyLink



James A. Crowder Jr.
October 2018



Supported by



The Call to Action

A young woman with long braids, wearing a patterned t-shirt, stands in the center of the frame holding a light blue folder. Behind her is a collage of portraits of prominent Black figures, including Patrice Lumumba, Coretta Scott King, and others. The overall image has a semi-transparent overlay.

Radical creation and innovation come from radical disruption: the loss of life as we know it that, while painful, creates the space for something new.



Scaling Innovations: Learning Ecosystems & Pathways for Equitable Futures

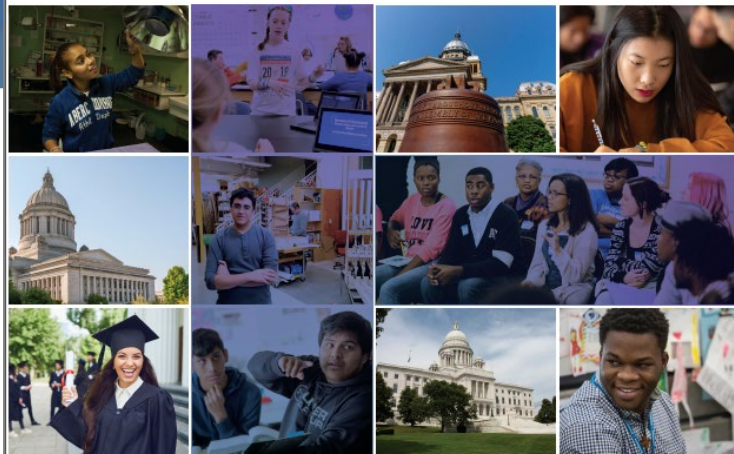
Policy Recommendations for Action

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NEW BOOK

A Promise for Equitable Futures: Enabling Change to Scale Educational and Economic Mobility Pathways

A call to action for states to commit to a **Learner Promise** – a set of 14 policy recommendations to create aligned, coherent competency-based education and workforce development systems throughout K-12 education, postsecondary, and the workforce. It's a collective call to develop new equity-driven ecosystems for lifelong learning in the United States.



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UNIVERSAL PATHWAYS



CULTURE & CHARACTERISTICS

Learner-Centered

Universal Pathways develop agency and identity development, often through relational networks that create cultures of advisement and mentorship.



Flexible and Responsive

Universal Pathways develop agency and identity development, often through relational networks that create cultures of advisement and mentorship.



Connected and Porous

Universal Pathways develop agency and identity development, often through relational networks that create cultures of advisement and mentorship.



Equitable

Universal Pathways develop agency and identity development, often through relational networks that create cultures of advisement and mentorship.



LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

Competency Development

Universal Pathways focus on the development of critical competencies, including contextualized knowledge and professional and personal skills, which may be universal and/or specific to a learner's chosen pathway.



Anywhere Anytime Learning

Universal Pathways operate with sufficient flexibility to support and recognize learning when and where it happens, which may include but is not limited to school.



Integrated Programs of Study

Universal Pathways use research-based and responsive approaches to learning and teaching across integrated K-12, postsecondary, workforce, and community settings.



Curriculum and Assessment

Universal Pathways engage learners in flexible curricula that can be facilitated across a variety of spaces where learning happens. Balanced systems of assessment support learning and recognize competencies.



SYSTEMS & STRUCTURES

Universal Qualification Frameworks

Universal Pathways are structured and defined through the qualification frameworks with clear benchmarks and milestones that learners must meet and pass to progress.



Universal Competencies and Credentials

Universal Pathways are built around a set of core competencies that define learning objectives. They allow learners to earn credentials and other recognitions of learning that are universally recognized and validated.



Shared Cross-Sector Governance

Universal Pathways are coordinated by state and regional governing bodies that establish vision, build core systems, and support cooperative design and implementation.



Shared and Transparent Data Systems

Universal Pathways use dynamic data systems to support learning and advancement, as well as continuous improvement.



Promoting State Policies in Support of Learning Ecosystems and Pathways

- *“Learners can weave their experiences together over time, because they are supported by common infrastructure: universal qualifications and credentialing frameworks, common criteria for recognitions of learning, transferable credits and credentials, shared governance, and transparent data systems.”*
 - https://www.wise-qatar.org/app/uploads/2019/05/wise_report-rr.1.2019-web.pdf

Rethinking Assessments

“...This will require a significant departure from the status quo; in particular, a significant departure for K12 and postsecondary institutions that remain largely reliant on systems of standardized assessments and local determinations such as letter grades. These assessments and measures of learning are insufficient in pathway systems: they do not recognize or value work-based or prior learning, they offer only limited evaluation of contextualized knowledge or transferable skills, and they are inherently biased.”

State Policy: Creating Learning Ecosystems and Pathways

- Stimulate innovation and create incentives that can help regions develop and oversee pathway systems
 - Authorize innovation zones
- Build infrastructure that enables continuity of learning from K12 through employment
 - Create universal qualifications frameworks
 - Create integrated college and career competency systems
 - Create competency-based graduate profiles
 - Rethink credentialing
- Enable anywhere anytime learning
 - Move away from seat-time and enable competency-based credits with evidence (demonstrations of mastery)
- Support and scale innovative approaches to school, secondary, post-secondary and program redesign
 - Changes to policies, practices and resource flows to enable conditions for scale

State Policy: Creating Learning Ecosystems and Pathways

- Organize and coordinate state-level and regional pathways by creating shared governance structures
 - Establish statewide cross-sector governance
 - Establish statewide workforce goals with equity targets
 - Fund and assist regional intermediary organizations
 - Enable regional planning
- Streamline and align planning, funding, and accountability to support cooperative action across sectors
 - Blend and braid revenue streams (Federal ESSA, WIOA, Perkins), State, Local
- Develop integrated, transparent, and learner-centered data systems, including a universal learner record, to support cross-sector coordination and empower learner agency
 - Create comprehensive universal learner records
 - Build integrated data systems

State Policy: Creating Learning Ecosystems and Pathways

- Advocate for policy and systemic solutions that will promote social and economic equity
 - Address systemic funding inequities
 - Increase affordability for post-secondary education
 - Promote equitable economic development
- Invest in research, learning, and engagement efforts that build knowledge, will, and collective capacity to create universal pathways
- Support and scale innovations that modernize, diversify, and prepare the workforce
- Engage diverse stakeholders to share stories and experiences

Support Learner Development

1. Create Individualized Learner Records
2. Support Student Counseling, Advisement, and Navigation
3. Prioritize Personal and Professional Skill Development
4. Create Opportunities for Career Awareness and Exposure

Promote College and Career Readiness

1. Create Competency-Based Graduate Profiles
2. Expand Work-Based Learning
3. Expand Competency-Based Learning
4. Promote Dual and Concurrent Enrollment
5. Develop Balanced Systems of Assessments

Create Regional Pathways

1. Enable Regional Planning Efforts
2. Fund and Assist Regional Intermediary Organizations
3. Develop Integrated Programs of Study
4. Disrupt Barriers to Access and Attainment

Build Regional Infrastructure

1. Enable Competency-Based Credit Flexibility
2. Build Integrated Data Systems
3. Invest in Regional Professional Development

Coordinate State-Level Workforce Readiness

1. Establish Workforce Goals with Equity Targets
2. Establish Cross-Sector Governance
3. Integrate College and Career Standards
4. Leverage Perkins V to Advance Pathways
5. Blend and Braid Revenue Streams

Modernize Human Capital Systems

1. Modernize Teacher Preparation
2. Redesign Teacher Licensure and Credentialing
3. Diversify the Teacher Workforce
4. Invest in Cultural Competency Training

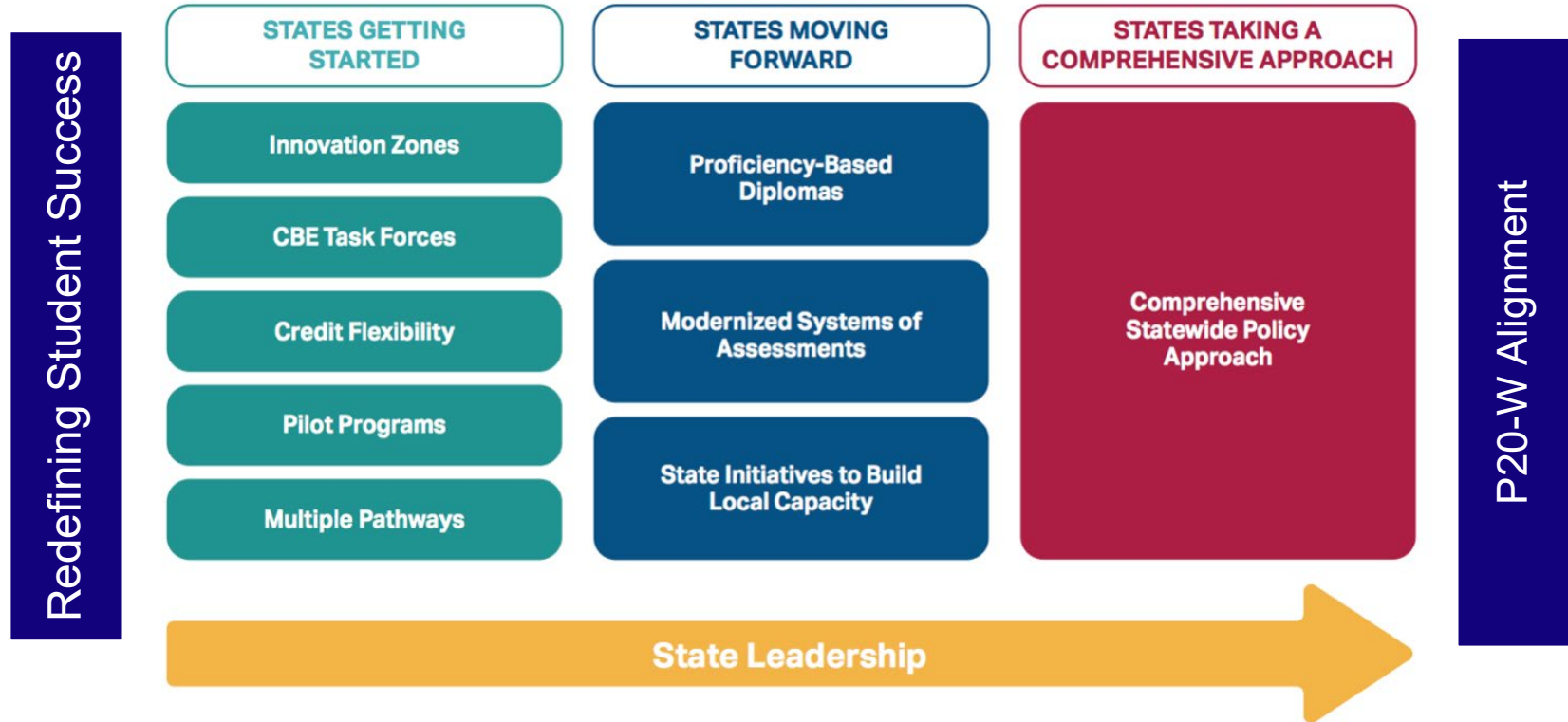
Stimulate Innovation

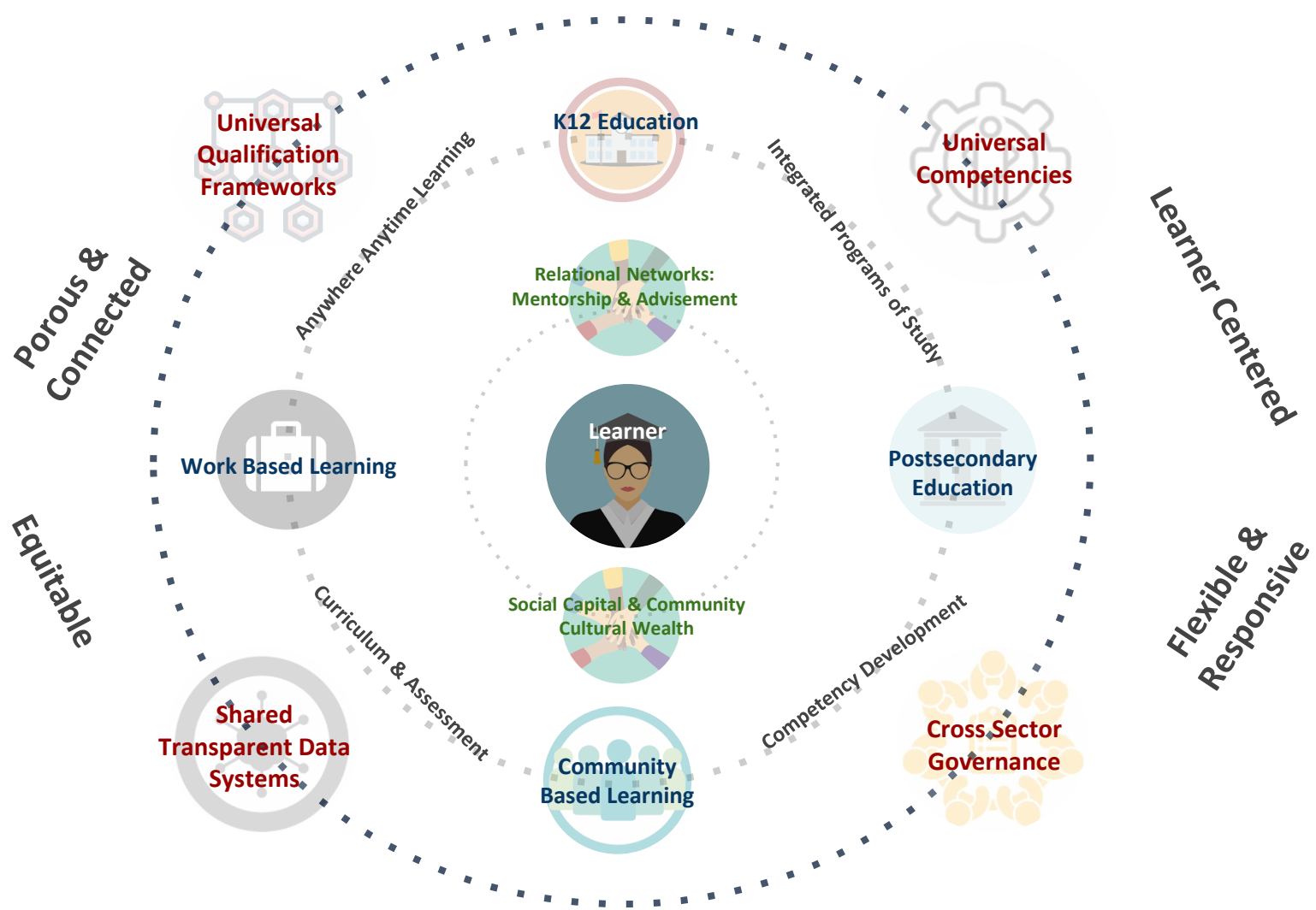
1. Authorize Innovation Zones
2. Fund Innovation
3. Increase Connectivity

Enact Equity

1. Promote Equitable Economic Development
2. Invest in Healthy and Connected Communities
3. Promote Racially Equitable Recovery

Policy Levers for States Advancing Competency-Based Education Systems (USA)







Questions?

Please ask your questions by adding them to the chat box or by turning on your microphone.



Quick Feedback

One-Minute Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Aurora_EquitableFutures



Stay Connected

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