

AN NC CHAMBER EVENT

## Education & Workforce Conference

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DURHAM, NC

**Jose Ortega-Luo**  
**Director of Workforce Partnership**  
**The College Board**

Jose Ortega-Luo is Director of Workforce Partnerships, where he and the Strategic Reach and Workforce Partnership team lead College Board's efforts to secure industry-recognized credential (IRC) adoption in states for AP Career Kickstart's new employer-endorsed credentials. In this role, he leverages research to inform state-specific strategies focused on state departments of workforce development, commerce, labor and education to position College Board as a trusted advisor in state talent development. He also oversees research initiatives that shape broader strategies to expand access to career-connected learning opportunities for all students.



Originally from Hillsborough, NC, José earned both his master's in public policy (2023) and his undergraduate degree (2019) from Duke University. As a first-generation, low-income Latinx student, his background has shaped his deep commitment to public service. He previously served as a college advisor, helping increase college access for a graduating class of 300 students. Motivated by a commitment to socio-economic mobility, he pursued a MPP, during which he interned with the City of Durham and contributed to economic development initiatives at NCGrowth. After earning his MPP, he completed an Education Policy Fellowship at the College Board, where he developed expertise in state-approved IRC policies, career readiness in K-12 accountability systems and CTE teacher certification.

In his free time, José enjoys playing clarinet duets with his wife, collecting sneakers, and is a huge Duke basketball fan. This summer he is incredibly excited about his move to DC - a big change since this is the first time living outside of North Carolina.