# Developing future ready leaders: Executive perspectives on L&D programs today





Attracting, developing, and retaining leaders is a more pressing issue than ever, yet our recent research shows that HR leaders and executives in other functions fundamentally disagree about the usefulness of executive L&D.<sup>1</sup>

### How executives outside HR see L&D

Only a quarter of executives not in HR say their company's L&D programs have helped them succeed to a large extent





# Most executives say they have been asked to attend executive learning programs **less than once a year**

In the time you have been with your company as an executive, outside of any regular performance evaluation process, how many times have you been asked to attend an executive learning program lasting... (%)



#### More than 1 week





Though half spend more than **10 hours a year on digital** or not-in-person learning offerings from their company



#### Executives see their company's offerings as limited



#### And say that **people just below the executive level are often on their own**

Limited offerings made available or curated; instead individuals must generally seek out offerings themselves (e.g., attending a course at a business school)

A set of courses or modules built specifically for the company that individuals can elect to participate in (e.g., to round out or build capabilities)



A program (or set of programs) built specifically for the company targeting high performers (e.g., by invitation) to prepare them for the senior leader level		13%
A highly formalized sequence of learning programs, built specifically for the company that all individuals must participate in as they develop toward the senior leader le	11%	
A set of courses or modules not built specifically for the company that individuals can elect to participate in, which are made available or curated		2%
Other	3%	
Don't know		7%

### HR leaders have a different spin on executive offerings

More than half of HR leaders say they **empower executives to make their own learning decisions** 

- 1. Empower individual senior leaders to make their own decisions
- 2. Offer a dynamic set of resources tailored to individual development needs identified through our succession planning process
- 3. Manage centrally (formally and individually)
- 4. Manage at the regional, functional, or business unit level (formally & individually)
- 5. It varies too much to say



## All executives agree there's little linkage between L&D and executive succession planning, though how little varies



3%

functions see strong links between L&D and executive succession planning

Somewhat Mostly Entirely

	15%	
11%		



# Questions leaders can ask to improve executives' perceptions of L&D



#### **Further reading**



- Developing future-ready leaders: From assessments to strategically aligned learning
- The leadership kaleidoscope: How organizations can help leaders meet their new mandate