

## Tab 5 P20W Update

Coordinating Board for Higher Education  
September 13, 2023

### BACKGROUND

P20W data systems securely and privately connect statewide information from early childhood through K–12 education, postsecondary education, and the workforce enabling cross-sector data insights to help leaders answer pressing policy questions, direct resources, and better support individuals along their education and workforce journeys. The “P” generally refers to preschool or early childhood, the “20” represents grades of elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, and the “W” refers to the journey in the workforce. Benefits of P20W data include:

- Providing state policymakers with clear, measurable, and actionable insights supporting efficient, data-driven decision-making.
- Leaders will have better visibility into the talent pipeline and workforce development opportunities.
- Individuals and communities become better consumers of information leading to improved outcomes for all citizens.

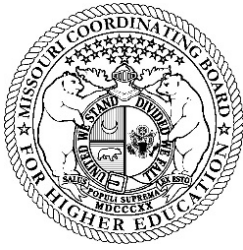
In FY 2023, the Governor’s Office requested the Department to engage with consultants to solicit wants and needs for a P20W system from a range of stakeholders, as well as to conduct an environmental scan of similar units in other states and do an initial evaluation of the current systems related to this effort in Missouri. Approximately one-half of states have an existing system that is more established than Missouri. Examples of leading states are Kentucky and Indiana.

Following that study, a budget proposal was included for the FY 2024 Department budget to include a request for \$2.5 million and five (5) staff to develop a P20W unit. This request was approved by the General Assembly and signed into the Department’s budget (House Bill 3) by Governor Parson on June 20, 2023.

The P20W Research and Data Center is housed within the Department’s Office of Performance and Strategy as part of the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). This unit will focus on collaboration and coordination with other state agencies to securely and privately link administrative data for research and analysis purposes; development of the structure and maintenance of such a data system; research of education-to-workforce policy issues of importance to the state of Missouri; and work with internal and external stakeholders to improve secure access to the data.

### CURRENT STATUS

Current priorities include hiring staff for the unit, work on fiscal and logistic considerations in establishing a new unit, legal consultation for data sharing agreements, linking K-12 data to the existing higher education and workforce data, and communication with partners and stakeholders. Jeremy Kintzel was hired as the Director of the P20W unit on July 16, 2023. The Director and Assistant Commissioner are working to hire additional team members.



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**NEXT STEPS**

Once additional team members are hired, the next steps include conducting research on known areas of interest and establishing an advisory group of key cabinet leaders and others involved in the effort. Work will also continue on establishing system architecture, data connections, and documentation. The Department will provide regular updates to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education on this unit's work and progress.

**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an information item only.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- None