AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

AGENDA ITEM
Non-Credit Reporting and Missouri Scorecard
Coordinating Board for Higher Education
April 6, 2017

DESCRIPTION
This agenda item summarizes recent developments toward reporting of non-credit instructional activity by Missouri community colleges and State Technical College, as well as development of a "Missouri Scorecard" web portal, which will provide institutional and program information to the public along with data on program demographics, graduate earnings, and employment.

Background

The Missouri Community College Association (MCCA) was awarded a grant in late 2014 through the U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant program. While most of the $19.7 million MoSTEMWINs grant was earmarked to expand job training in STEM-related occupations (e.g. transportation, manufacturing, information technology, health services/health sciences, and science support), some dollars were earmarked for expanded data collection and reporting.

MCCA enlisted the Department of Economic Development's Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC) as a sub-grantee to provide day-to-day support with project planning, vendor management, and stakeholder communications. MERIC, along with staff from MCCA, the MDHE, the Division of Workforce Development (DWD), the State Information Technology Services Division (ITSD), vendors, and a Data Advisory Committee comprised of institutional workforce and data staff have worked closely on major grant deliverables.

Non-Credit Reporting

One major deliverable has been the development of a system for student-level reporting of non-credit instructional activity never before collected at the state level in Missouri. This will provide additional understanding and visibility for an important component of two-year institutions' missions which state policymakers have been previously unable to quantify.

Grant partners and stakeholders worked to develop a record layout for quarterly reporting of student enrollment and credential completion. MDHE, MERIC, and ITSD staff then worked with vendors to embed reporting in the same web portal used to report credit student data, so the colleges would be familiar with the process and with data validation.

The community colleges and State Technical College are now reporting non-credit activity in all programs listed with DWD's Missouri Eligible Training Provider System (ETPS). These are programs approved for training assistance through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Data have been collected for the third and fourth quarters of 2016, and first quarter 2017 data will be collected in mid-April. All public two-year institutions except North Central Missouri College and Missouri State University–West Plains are reporting; these

institutions only list credit-bearing programs with ETPS so are not required to submit the new file.

Missouri Scorecard
A major driver for the implementation of non-credit student-level data reporting was the concurrent development of a "Missouri Scorecard." The Scorecard will be a public website that provides prospective students and other users with easily accessible information on available programs, institutions, and instructional sites. Program information will be displayed along with additional data on student demographics, completion rates, earnings, and employment, and select institutional staff will have access to more sophisticated reporting capability behind log-in.

The Missouri Scorecard follows a federal effort that attempted to provide similar information, but it had major flaws. The U.S. Department of Education's Scorecard provided institution-level earnings and employment data, but could not account for program mix or even filter for graduates. It was also limited to containing information about students who had received federal financial aid (whether they had graduated or not). Graduate follow-up information on Missouri's Scorecard, while it still has some limitations, does at least include all/only graduates and accounts for program of study.

In addition, the Scorecard leverages an existing multi-agency data sharing MOU signed by DED, the MDHE, and others, and a pre-built data warehouse including state wage records provided by the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. With the exception of the new non-credit file, no additional data or new reporting are required from the institutions. All student-level data in the data warehouse are also de-identified when loaded. While built primarily with the participation and feedback of public two-year institutions, the Scorecard and its underlying data warehouse also contain student-level data from public four-year institutions and the MDHE's entire site and program inventory (including proprietary and technical institutions). It is our intent that the Scorecard eventually displays information and outcomes data from all institutions for which data are included in the warehouse.

In early March, other institutions and ETPS-listed training providers were invited to apply for log-in credentials to review their information and outcomes (if available). The site is not yet public (a beta version is available to institutions), and another phase of development is planned which will apply remaining grant funds to incorporating stakeholder feedback and improvements to add value for customers, such as career exploration tools; ETPS enhancements; and reporting features for the institutions. Comments are requested by April 15, 2017. Development Phase III will follow, with the grant scheduled to end and the Scorecard slated to be public no later than September 30, 2018. Missouri is positioned to be a national leader, as we are ahead of similar developments in most other states. Few if any other states are as far along toward one-stop availability of outcomes data for credit and non-credit programs.

STATUTORY REFERENCE
N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION
This is an information item only.

ATTACHMENT(S)
None