



INDIANA
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT
AND ITS **WorkOne** CENTERS

To: Indiana State Board of Education
Indiana School Principals and Superintendents

From: Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Date: September 16, 2015

Subject: Memorandum
Methodology to determine industry recognized credentials for the purpose of school accountability grades

Purpose: State Board of Education (SBOE) rule **511 IAC 6.2-10** defines industry recognized credentials as developed or supported by business and industry to verify student mastery of technical skills competencies in an occupational area that aligns with Indiana's economic sectors and is approved by the Department of Workforce Development (DWD).

In order to identify those industry valued credentials, DWD combined the list of industry certifications previously recognized by the SBOE with the list of industry certifications used in adult training programs. Accountability rules apply with adult high schools, thus allowing credentials that are typically obtained by individuals age 18 and above are an important inclusion.

Each credential on this combined list was evaluated to determine the following: 1. Does this meet SBOE rule language as well as nationally

understood definitions of industry certifications (see references)? 2. Does this credential meet minimum demand requirements determined using job projections data? This minimum requirement is 200 jobs available, which are connected to the successful completion of the certification, over the next ten years. 3. Does this credential meet minimum wage requirements determined using the twenty fifth percentile of all wages for all occupations in Indiana in 2014?

DWD staff invites schools and employers to apply to add to the list using the form included on www.in.gov/dwd. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and added to the list as approved through March 1 each year. A complete list compiled by March 1 of each year will apply toward the school letter grade in the year following.

The methodology described above will be updated with new job market data and applied annually. Additionally, thresholds for determining high wage and high demand will be updated with ongoing labor market data collection.

References:

511 IAC 6.2-10: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20150715-IR-511140447FRA.xml.pdf>

Association for Career and Technical Education:

<https://www.acteonline.org/>

US Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/wioa-reauthorization.html>

Lumina's Connecting Credentials: A Beta Credentials Framework:

<http://www.luminafoundation.org/resources/connecting-credentials>

National Center for Higher Education Management System's report "A Quest for Clarity: Identifying the Market for Short-Term Training Opportunities and Industry Recognized Credentials in Indiana", 2012

Effective Date: In order to allow schools and school districts to have ample planning time to implement certifications that will count for their 2016-17 school year accountability grade, DWD shares this list of industry certifications in advance of the **March 1, 2016** effective date.

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