

# Credential Attainment Cohort

## Timeline of Cohort Activities

The Cohort will engage in peer learning and information sharing activities across 8 consecutive months:

### 1. Virtual Kick Off Meeting – Week of October 7 (75 minutes)

- ◆ Overview of indicator, cohort challenge and activities
- ◆ Learn what to expect and discuss goals, outcomes, and State action plans
- ◆ State Teams introduce themselves, discuss their State's current status, and share their goals for participation in the Cohort

⇒ *Cohort Team Assignment 1: State Teams will outline their current process for determining which certifications qualify as credentials (according to the definition outlined within federal guidance) along with any existing challenges and post it on the Cohort's internal dashboard.*

### 2. Virtual Meeting on State Approaches to Assessing Certifications – Week of October 21 (75 minutes)

- ◆ Discussion of methods developed by states for determining what qualifies as a credential according to federal guidance
- ◆ Identify common and unique challenges faced by states in making determinations
- ◆ Open Discussion on Cohort Team Assignment Responses

⇒ *Cohort Team Assignment 2: State Teams will connect with their assigned state partner to discuss commonalities and differences in approach and share information/tools that they have found useful.*

### 3. Virtual Meeting on Resources and Innovations around Credential Attainment – Week of November 18 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Overview of available resources to assist states in their understanding of the credential attainment indicator, such as the CareerOneStop Certification Finder, Credential Attainment e-learning module, credentialengine.org, and credentialfinder.com
- ◆ Discussion of common questions about collecting data and reporting on indicator

⇒ *Cohort Team Assignment 3: State Teams will highlight any training and technical assistance provided to staff around credential attainment and post on the Cohort's internal dashboard.*

### 4. Virtual Meeting on Staff Training and TA around Credential Attainment – Week of December 9 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Discuss training and TA needs that exist around this topic within states
- ◆ Begin discussing development of system-wide resource that would be useful to states in determining which degrees, certificates, certifications, and licenses qualify as credentials

⇒ *Cohort Team Assignment 4: State Teams will work with assigned state partner to recommend three potential resources the Cohort can develop to help states in establishing a methodology for determining which certifications qualify as credentials*

### 5. Virtual Meeting on Cohort Capstone Development – Week of January 13 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Continue discussion of system-wide resource that would be useful to states in determining which degrees, certificates, certifications, and licenses to count as credentials by identifying necessary components

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- ◆ Prepare for in-person meeting

## 6. Proposed In-person Meeting – February 26-27

*\* Note: The In-Person Meeting is pending approval. Alternatively, one or more additional virtual meeting(s) may be substituted.*

*\*\* Note: The Departments of Labor and Education do not anticipate funding for travel, lodging or meals.*

- ◆ Based on the work of the State Teams during their virtual activities, states will identify and begin developing system-wide resource
- ◆ States will share and develop innovative ideas while learning and receiving feedback from staff at the Federal level as well as from their peers
- ◆ Cohort teams will begin discussing state specific action plans for determining which degrees, certificates, certifications, and licenses qualify as credentials within their state

## 7. Virtual Meeting – Week of March 30 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Continue development of system-wide resource that will assist states in determining which degrees, certificates, certifications, and licenses qualify as credentials within their state
- ◆ Discuss state specific action plans for evaluating and designating qualifying certifications as credentials

⇒ *Cohort Team Assignment 5: State Teams will continue to work on action plans*

## 8. Virtual Meeting – Week of April 20 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Finalize development of new system-wide resource
- ◆ Discuss state specific action plans for evaluating and designating qualifying certifications as credentials

## 9. Virtual Meeting – Week of May 4 (90 minutes)

- ◆ Present completed resource to participating Federal staff
- ◆ Discuss appropriate dissemination methods