

MINUTES

Board of Postsecondary Education Credentials

October 2, 2018

10:00 a.m.

In attendance:

Members

Steven Walker, Lt. Governor's designee
Philip Thomas, NC State Superintendent of
Public Schools' designee
Christine Ryan, Commissioner of Labor's
designee
Elizabeth McDuffie, CFNC
Stephanie McGarrah, NC Healthcare Association
Hope Williams, NC Independent Colleges and
Universities

Staff

Angela Quick, RTI International
Kayla Siler, RTI International
Edna Wallace, RTI International

Presenter

Jeff DeBellis, Department of Commerce
Caren Arbeit, RTI International
Serena Hinz, RTI International
Natassia Rodriguez Ott, RTI International

Call to Order

Steven Walker called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Upon the motion of Ms. McDuffie, seconded by Ms. McGarrah, the minutes of the August 7, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

NC Credential Offerings

Steven Walker recognized Edna Wallace and Kayla Siler, RTI International, to review the data on NC credential offerings.

Ms. Wallace begin walking through the map of the various credential offerings including certificates, work-based training, and skills-based short courses. The data for these maps is inclusive of for profit, non-profit, community colleges, public universities/colleges and private and independent

North Carolina Board of Postsecondary Education Credentials

colleges/universities. RTI researchers Caren Arbeit, Serena Hinz and Natassia Rodriguez Ott joined via phone to take questions.

Ms. Williams raised the question of quality assurance and how the board will decide what to recognize or what the standards are for a quality program. Mr. Walker pointed out some areas in NC that are surprising in terms of not offering post-secondary credentials. The group discussed that some counties that have satellite campuses are likely counted with their home institution and would not be reflected in the location of the satellite (dependent on how institutions are reporting).

Ms. Siler reviewed a listing of Industry Credentials and Certifying Bodies based on the 16 CTE Career Clusters. Ms. Ott noted what other states were doing in terms of collecting and tracking information on these credentials to aggregate at the state level (some credentials require work experience and it is harder for the education institution to track that information once students have moved on).

Mr. DeBellis provided information on the Common Follow up system and noted what is available in this system and how it is collected. It is not as inclusive (private and independent colleges and universities and proprietary schools are not included).

Employer Perceived Education Skills Gap

Mr. Walker recognized Jeff DeBellis from the NC Department of Commerce to share the latest data from the Employer Needs Survey and the latest Employment Projections for NC. Mr. DeBellis provided context and background for the employer needs survey and then highlighted some key observations related to employer indications of hiring difficulty and reason for that difficulty. Manufacturing and STEM industry employers noted more difficulty hiring and indicated a lack of educational attainment/credential as a potential reason. Education/Credential difficulties are also more acute in industries such as Education, Healthcare and Pro/Tech Services.

In reviewing the employment project data, Mr. DeBellis noted that overall by 2026 NC is projected to add 389,000 new jobs with the greatest increase in Health Science (and least in Manufacturing). Employment growth is projected to be strongest in high skill/education/wage positions and low skill/education/wage positions with less growth in the middle.

Labor Market Demands

Mr. Walker recognized Edna Wallace to review labor market demand data. Ms. Wallace walked the group through the available data tables and Mr. DeBellis provided additional context and details about the Supply-Demand Rate (number of job seekers per job opening).

Next Steps and Adjournment

Angela Quick reviewed next steps and the timeline, highlighting Quality Assurance as the next piece for research and discussion.

Mr. Walker entertained a motion to adjourn. Upon the motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. McGarrah, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. Mr. Walker adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.