

OCTAE Connection Flash Edition

May 14, 2020

Pathways to Credentials Technical Assistance Cohort Announced

A new initiative supported by the U.S. Department of Education, [Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education](#) (OCTAE) aims to build the capacity of community and technical colleges to embed stackable, industry-recognized credentials within technical associate degree programs. The [Pathways to Credentials initiative](#) will provide customized technical assistance to help colleges advance their efforts in stackable credential design, including components such as employer engagement, industry certification alignment, and non-credit/credit integration. OCTAE recently announced the colleges selected for participation in the technical assistance cohort that launches this month. The following schools will be receiving technical assistance:

[Community College of Aurora/Colorado Northwestern Community College](#) (CO)

[University of District of Columbia Community College](#) (DC)

[Lake-Sumter State College](#) (FL)

[Leeward Community College](#) (HI)

[Malcolm X College](#) (IL)

[Southern University – Shreveport](#) (LA)

[Ocean County College](#) (NJ)

[Onondaga Community College](#) (NY)

[Community College of Allegheny County](#) (PA)

[North Central Texas College](#) (TX)

Led by the [Center for Occupational Research and Development](#) and partner organization, [Social Policy Research Associates](#), Pathways to Credentials will provide technical assistance services to participating colleges from May 2020 through July 2021. College teams will work with a coach and other subject matter experts to develop action

plans specific to the workforce needs of their communities while benefiting from the peer learning community of the cohort.

In recent years, the stackable credentials approach has emerged as a notable practice to help students progress along the education continuum and obtain a postsecondary credential with labor market value. In addition to providing technical assistance, Pathways to Credentials will publish a new edition of the [Stackable Credentials Tool Kit](#) and related tutorials to support community and technical colleges across the United States. These planned resources will be posted on the [Perkins Collaborative Resource Network](#) website at <https://cte.ed.gov/initiatives/credentials>, where the existing tool kit and tutorials are currently available.

OCTAE website: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovael/index.html>

email: octae.newsletter@ed.gov

To subscribe, please use the email

address: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USED/subscriber/new?topic_id=USED_2

OCTAE Connection does not endorse products, policies or practices described in its stories.

Remember to check out the OCTAE Blog: <https://sites.ed.gov/octae/>