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OCTAE *Connection* Flash Edition

February 21, 2020

Register NOW: Rural Community College Grants Convening

Dear Colleague,

On March 19 and 20, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education and the [American Association of Community Colleges](#) are cohosting another convening to help rural community colleges identify, plan, and design projects for federal grant applications. Activities will include facilitated workshops and information from a variety of federal agencies with upcoming opportunities.

Please register now for an individual or small group from your community to attend this convening, which will be held at the [Community College of Denver](#) (800 Curtis St., Denver, CO 80204). Space is limited, and while there is no registration fee to attend, attendees are responsible for their own travel costs. The content of this convening is the same as the [past offerings in Wisconsin and Mississippi](#).

Click this link to register (agenda and hotel information are listed): <https://cvent.me/L8DBY5>.

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Apply Now: Pathways to Credentials Technical Assistance Opportunity

An exciting initiative, supported by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, aims to build the capacity of community colleges to improve career and technical education credential attainment rates among youth and adults enrolled in associate degree programs.

This week, the [Pathways to Credentials](#) project launched its technical assistance phase, offering colleges the opportunity to apply for free customized technical assistance on stackable credential program design, including such components as employer engagement, industry certification alignment, and non-credit/credit integration. A cohort of up to 10 community colleges will be selected.

Teams from the colleges will participate in an in-person institute May 28-29, 2020, and work with a technical assistance coach and other subject matter experts over the course of a year to advance their work in embedding stackable industry-recognized credentials within associate degree

programs. Participating colleges will develop action plans specific to the workforce needs of their communities while benefiting from the peer learning community of the cohort.

Full details and an application form are available on the project [webpage](#). An informational webinar will be held on March 5, from 2-3 p.m. EST. Click this link to register <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8311339641287645963>.

Applications are due April 2.

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