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Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) Development Fund

Michigan businesses are facing a crucial shortage of skilled workers possessing strong academic and technical skills. Graduates from both academic and technical programs and their employers need guarantees that education and training programs are teaching and instilling the competencies needed for future success.

The Competency-Based Curriculum Development Fund provides a competitive incentive for the creation of business and education partnerships. These partnerships will develop training curricula to address the skill needs of Michigan's workforce. Competency-based curricula require students to demonstrate competence, as defined in written statements that incorporate clearly stated criteria and standards of performance. Students who demonstrate competence have shown the ability to put knowledge and principles into practice. Grants are available for the development of new curricula and/or to modify current curricula to become competency-based. The Michigan Department of Career Development will grant awards four times per year on a quarterly basis.

Eligible Applicants

Any education and training provider may apply for funds:

- Public and private secondary education agencies
- Intermediate school districts
- Community colleges
- Public and private universities
- Private proprietary schools

Education and training providers may apply individually or collaboratively for grant funds based on required partnerships with employers/professional (industry) associations.

Criteria

Competency-based curricula developed and funded from the CBC Development Fund must meet the following criteria:

- Employers must be involved to identify all needed competencies from the start of the curriculum development process.
- Competencies must be identified using Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from the job.
- Competencies related to workplace readiness and academically related areas must be defined using a nationally recognized metric, such as Work Keys or equivalents.
- A full competency analysis profile must be conducted to identify competencies in workplace readiness, academic and related areas, and areas of technical expertise.
- Competencies must be converted to a curriculum using a recognized methodology or instructional design system.

Further Information

For the complete application package, as well as questions and answers on the Competency-Based Curriculum Development Fund, go to the Michigan Department of Career Development Web site at www.MDCD.org or contact Terry Johnson at (517) 241-4000.