

TO: Standards & Certification Committee

DATE: 8/24/01

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action
 For Information
 Meeting Notes
 For Consent

SUBJECT: Locally Recognized Educational Credentials

PROPOSED MOTION(S): N/A

DISCUSSION: The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (Section 136) specifies core indicators of performance for workforce investment activities in adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs. Fifteen core measures apply to the adult, dislocated worker and youth programs, and two measures of customer satisfaction apply across these three funding streams for a total of 17 required measures.

Three of the Core Performance Measures involve “credentials”. These are:

- **Measure 4: Adult Employment and Credential Rate**
- **Measure 8: Dislocated Worker Employment and Credential Rate**
- **Measure 12: Older Youth Credential Rate**

The U. S. Department of Labor - Employment and Training Administration (in Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 7-99) defines “credential” thus:

Credential - nationally recognized degree or certificate or State/locally recognized credential. Credentials include, but are not limited to, a high school diploma, GED or other recognized equivalents, post-secondary degrees/certificates, recognized skill standards, and licensure or industry-recognized certificates. States should include all State Education Agency recognized credentials. In addition, States should work with local Workforce Investment Boards to encourage certificates to recognize successful completion of the training services listed above that are designed to equip individuals to enter or re-enter employment, retain employment, or advance into better employment.

As opposed to the adult and dislocated worker measures where a credential must be coupled with employment, for older youth, a credential can be coupled with employment, entry into post-secondary education, or entry into advanced training.

In view of the above, the Local Board should decide if a local policy addressing the acceptance of “local” credentials (i.e., credentials which are not “nationally recognized” or recognized by the State or statewide) is required and, if so, what that policy should be. Presumably, the policy would/could apply to credentials obtained via both school-based and on-the-job (OJT) training.

As a point of reference, the existing (draft) PITD OJT manual proposes that a credential shall be deemed acceptable if the client achieves a rating of “C” (competent) or “A” (adequate) on three quarters of the Skill/Learning Objectives listed on the OJT Training Outline (this outline is part of the OJT Contract).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

ATTACHMENT(S): None