



Henry McMaster  
Governor

**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Harry M. Lightsey III  
Secretary

March 28, 2022

The Honorable William M. Hixon  
Legislative Oversight Committee  
Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Representative Hixon:

In response to your March 11, 2022 request to coordinate with other Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD) agencies to provide currently available workforce related data, we followed up with the Commission on Higher Education (CHE), Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) and State Tech to obtain the data requested. To that end, we posed the following three questions to each agency and their responses can be found in the attachment to this letter.

- 1.) Which data sets does your agency maintain or can obtain which would assist in answering these questions?
- 2.) Is there a cost associated with obtaining this information?
- 3.) How long would it take you to obtain this data and provide it to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs?

We also sought the assistance of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) to blend, aggregate and anonymize the data into a format that can be posted on the General Assembly's website. RFA has committed to assisting with this request and will do so at no cost to CCWD.

Each CCWD member agency will need to verify that its information is up-to-date with RFA and that the proper paperwork in place to request that the reports be run. According the responses we have received, the expected timeframe for agencies to submit their respective data will be up to 90 days; therefore, we anticipate having the disclosable data from RFA by FY 2023.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me or Elisabeth Kovacs ([ekovacs@scommerce.com](mailto:ekovacs@scommerce.com), 803.737-2329), who has coordinated this response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry M. Lightsey III".

Harry M. Lightsey III

HML/ek/km/vw

Attachment

## House Oversight Request for Information re: Data Sharing

### **Question 1:**

From the last five graduating classes, percentage of in-state students graduating from South Carolina public colleges and universities that are employed in South Carolina one-year, three-years, and five years after graduation.

### **Responses from Sister-Agencies:**

#### **South Carolina Commission on Higher Education – Rusty L. Monhollon, Ph.D.**

**1. Which data sets does your agency maintain or can obtain which would assist in answering this question?**

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) maintains the degree-level data for students who graduated from South Carolina public colleges and universities.

**2. Is there a cost associated with obtaining this information?**

There is no cost associated with obtaining this data.

**3. How long would it take you to obtain this data and provide it to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs?**

It would take approximately 90 days to collate and provide the data to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs.

#### **South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce – Dan Ellzey**

**1. Which data sets does your agency maintain or can obtain which would assist in the answering this?**

Wage Records which we provide to RFA

**2. Is there a cost associated with obtaining this information?**

If all students were matched against the wage records through DEW's eTrack, it's \$0.28 per match. DEW recommends that RFA be asked to conduct this data matching.

**3. How long would it take you to obtain this data and provide it to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs?**

RFA already has the wage records

**Question 2:**

From the last five years, percentage of individuals that obtained a ManuFirstSC certificate that work for an employer in a manufacturing industry as defined by NAICS code one-year, three-years, and five-years after obtaining the certificate. individual information from the aggregation or from the aggregation and publicly available information.” The agreement also requires RFA to secure written permission from DEW to disseminate or otherwise disclose aggregate data.

**South Carolina Technical College System – Dr. Tim Hardee****1.) Which data sets does your agency maintain or can obtain which would assist in answering these questions?**

We collect placement rates for graduates of our credit programs one year after graduation and can provide the placement percentage by the March 25th deadline. We do not collect three and five years post-graduation data.

ManuFirstSC is a continuing education program. Until recently, our continuing education enrollment did not collect social security numbers. Therefore, we cannot match enrollment records to employment data. We can however report placement for those students that completed ManuFirstSC with the aid of GEER funding as social security numbers were required. Unfortunately, this only represents about 5% of the total participants. Our colleges now have a secure process in place to collect social security numbers for continuing education enrollment and will begin tracking placement one year after graduation. We currently do not plan to collect three and five years post-graduation data.

**2.) Is there a cost associated with obtaining this information?**

The cost associated with collecting this information would be 28 cents per student paid to DEW for the report.

**3.) How long would it take you to obtain this data and provide it to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs?**

We can provide the placement percentage rates for our credit programs by the March 25<sup>th</sup> deadline. We do not collect the other requested information.

**South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce – Dan Ellzey****1.) Which data sets does your agency maintain or can obtain which would assist in the answering this?**

Wage Records which we provide to RFA

**2.) Is there a cost associated with obtaining this information?**

If all students were matched against the wage records through DEW’s eTrack, it’s \$0.28 per match. DEW recommends that RFA be asked to conduct this data matching.

**3.) How long would it take you to obtain this data and provide it to Revenue and Fiscal Affairs?**

RFA already has the wage records