

R. Wes Hayes, Jr.
Chairman

Rusty L. Monhollon, Ph.D.
President & Executive Director



March 25, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Chairman William M. "Bill" Hixon
Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee
P.O. Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
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Dear Chairman Hixon,

On behalf of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE), please find attached the agency's official response to the request from the Legislative Oversight Committee and the Economic Development, Transportation, and Natural Resources Subcommittee dated March 11, 2022. This response has been compiled in consultation with subject matter experts among CHE staff and conforms to the Committee's expectations outlined in Standard Practice 6.

CHE recognizes the benefits of working with the wide range of stakeholders across the education and workforce development pipeline. CHE looks forward to ongoing collaboration with the Committee, the Department of Commerce and other state agencies during the oversight process and welcomes the chance to participate in continued dialogue concerning issues highlighted by these partners.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information or have questions.

Sincerely,

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1) Is there a way to track the amount of debt students accumulate while in non-technical school colleges and universities?

Yes, CHE tracks debt accumulated by students while in non-technical colleges and universities via data sharing with selected partners, including the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation (SCSLC), National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and the U.S. Department of Education (through their Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)).

2) Please begin gathering information and state by when you can provide the average salary of graduates one, three-, and five-years post-graduation by degree from each non-technical school colleges and universities.

CHE has already begun the process of gathering information re: the average salary of graduates one, three-, and five-years post-graduation by degree from South Carolina's public non-technical school colleges.

CHE is working with the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) and the Office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) to determine the average salary of graduates. Based on conversations with these partners, we anticipate that data needed to perform the analysis will be shared no later than June 1, 2022.

3) Please state any changes that have occurred at your agency, or are planned at your agency because of the meeting with the Subcommittee (e.g., joining labor force participation rate taskforce after learning about during the meeting, etc.)

Following the meeting with the Subcommittee on February 28, 2022, CHE has worked with staff at the Education Oversight Committee to review plans for presentation and analysis of NSC data to SC high schools, districts, 2-year and 4-year colleges re: student success and progress metrics for recent high school graduates, including those who enroll at higher education institutions but don't graduate.

4) To determine where the same information is held by multiple agencies and, therefore, may be used to link information in the different agency systems, please provide a data dictionary for all information the agency maintains related to each of the items below.

- a. S.C. employer
 - N/A
- b. S.C. job seeker
 - N/A
- c. S.C. K-12 school (public)
 - See attached data dictionary
- d. S.C. student
 - See attached data dictionary

5) Please provide a list of case management and other data systems utilized by your agency and the following for each:

Commission on Higher Education Management Information System (CHEMIS)

- a. Does it include information on job seekers?
 - Yes
- b. Does it include information on employers?
 - Yes
- c. Does it include information on students?
 - Yes
- d. Does it include information on teaching entities?
 - Yes
- e. List of agencies with which the system can integrate data
 - South Carolina Department of Administration
 - South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce
 - South Carolina Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
 - South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission
 - South Carolina Institutions of Higher Learning
 - South Carolina Technical College System

** In addition to the state agencies listed above, CHE is also in the process of working to integrate data with other state partners, including the South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina First Steps and the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation, as well as the National Student Clearinghouse and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).*

6) What data, outside of the data currently available to your agency, may be helpful to your agency reaching potential customers, if any?

CHE would find it helpful to have transcript level data for all students enrolled in P-20 South Carolina educational institutions.

7) What data, outside of the data currently available to your agency, may be helpful to your agency in determining the results/impact your agency services are having on individuals it serves?

CHE would find it helpful to use census level data for the State of South Carolina in determining the results/impact our services are having on individuals served by our agency.

8) Please list all entities, other than those listed in the Education and Workforce one pager from the previous subcommittee meeting, you believe may be involved in the education and workforce ecosystem and role of each.

South Carolina Councils of Governments

Councils of Governments (COGs) are partnerships of – and provide resources to – the local counties, cities, and towns in their regions. In addition to local and regional partnerships, COGs partner with numerous federal and state agencies, obtaining and administering grants for a variety of community-based programs and economic development initiatives.

South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

SC Chamber of Commerce is the pre-eminent statewide voice representing the interests of the private sector to promote promotes pro-job and pro-business policies at the state and federal level. The organization is committed to developing a well-educated and skilled workforce with available, capable, productive, and sustainable workers to attract and retain employers across the state of South Carolina.

South Carolina Student Loan Corporation

SC Student Loan Corporation works exclusively with South Carolina students and parents; therefore, it is uniquely positioned to educate and connect with current and potential borrowers about the loan process as well as the risks and rewards to incurring student loans while funding a postsecondary education.

9) What topics does your agency believe may be helpful to have in a statewide unified workforce plan (e.g., marketing plan, central portal for customers to enter information through which their information could be shared with all applicable entities, etc.)?

- Interactive scorecard to measure and record up-to-date progress toward defined goals and metrics embedded in the proposed unified workforce plan, including the CHE Ascend 60x30 postsecondary educational attainment goal for 60 percent of South Carolinians to have a high-quality postsecondary credentials by 2030
- Data and focus areas geared toward examining disparities among demographic and geographic groups, along with corresponding strategic efforts designed to improve outcomes for these demographic and geographic groups.

10) What potential obstacles can your agency think of that may have to be overcome to successfully implement a statewide unified workforce plan?

- Clear lines of communication, a defined reporting structure and required agency representation within this specific sub-genre focused on a statewide workforce plan to ensure thorough, consistent and inclusive knowledge sharing among respective agencies.
- Any statewide unified workplace plan must include specific timelines, well defined outcomes and clear deliverables for respective agencies.
- Adequate financial resources - including upfront funding for a statewide longitudinal data system and an integrated data dashboard accessible by agency staff and stakeholders - along with dedicated human resources and staff training
- Universal buy-in, prioritization and support from agency leaders, legislature and Governor
- Staff turnover and potential loss of institutional knowledge re: workforce issues

11) To allow the General Assembly and public to access information related to multiple agencies in a single location, would your agency be willing to contact the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) and provide information necessary for RFA to create and regularly update, through data sharing, maps applicable to your agency?

Yes

Below is a list of initial maps for consideration (Note: Not all will be applicable to your agency). Please include others agency leadership believes may be useful to members of the General Assembly or public.

Location/Boundaries

- a. Local Workforce Development Board Areas/Regional Workforce Advisors
- b. S.C. Works Center and Connection Point Locations
- c. Vocational Rehabilitation Facilities and Locations (e.g., job readiness training centers and other facilities)
- d. Vocational Rehabilitation Regions
- e. Commission for the Blind Office Locations
- f. Commission for the Blind Vocational Rehabilitation Office Territories
- g. Department of Veteran's Affairs Regional Modules for Service
- h. First Steps 4K Provider Locations
- i. First Steps Local Partner Office Locations
- j. Public 4K Provider Locations
- k. K-12 School Locations
- l. Local School District Boundaries
- m. SC School Report Card District Comparison
- n. Adult Education Technical Assistance Network Boundaries/Regions
- o. Technical College main and branch campus Locations
- p. Public and Private college and university (non-technical college) Locations
- q. Regional Non-Profit Economic Development Alliance Regions
- r. County Tiers for purposes of incentives
- s. Counties eligible for State Rural Development Grants
- t. Counties eligible for Appalachian Regional Commission Grants

Data by County

Following information by county:

- Percent of kindergartners who were ready for school based on kindergarten readiness assessment in total and by the following:
 1. in poverty
 2. race
 3. subject
- a. Child care supply v. demand
- b. Percent of children age 0-35 months who have full immunization coverage
- c. Percent of children ages 1-5 who have received at least one preventive dental visit in the past year
- d. Percent of child care providers participating in ABC Quality

Data Elements Collected Associated with K-12 and SC Student

K-12 School

| <u>Data Attribute</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACT Composite Score | Enhanced American College Testing (ACT) composite score used for acceptance and/or the highest score earned by the student. |
| Birth Date | The calendar date of birth as reported by the student. |
| Gender | The gender of the student. |
| Geographic Origin / County Id | A code for the county of South Carolina in which the student resided at the time of the first admission to the institution. This data element is for in-state students only. |
| Enrollment Type | Indicates the broad categorization of students based on their progress toward a degree or certificate. <i>This is applicable because of high school students taking dual enrollment classes.</i> |
| High School GPA | High School Grade Point Average/Ratio. |
| High School Rank | The academic standing of a student in the graduating class at the high school described in data element HIGH_SCH, in tenths. |
| High School CEEB Code | The COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION BOARD (CEEB) code for the in-state high school attended by the student. |
| High School Graduation Year | The calendar year of high school graduation for the student. |
| Prerequisite 1 ENGLISH | Four Units of English |
| Prerequisite 2 MATH | Four Units of Mathematics |
| Prerequisite 3 LAB SCIENCE | Three units of laboratory science |
| Prerequisite 4 FOREIGN LANG | Two units of the same foreign language. |
| Prerequisite 5 Social Science | Three units of social science |
| Prerequisite 6 Electives | One unit must be taken as an elective. |
| Prerequisite 7 Fine Arts | One Unit of Fine Arts |
| Prerequisite 8 PHYSICAL EDUC | One Unit of Physical Education or ROTC |
| Registration Status | The student's status of registration at the reporting institution. <i>This is applicable because of high school students taking dual enrollment classes.</i> |
| SAT Math Score | The score achieved on the mathematics section of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) examination that was used for the basis of acceptance and/or the highest score earned by the student. |
| SAT Verbal Score | The score achieved on the verbal or language section of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) examination that was used for the basis of acceptance and/or the highest score earned by the student. |
| Geographic Origin - State/Oth | This field will contain the first reported Geographic Origin of the student enrolling in a South Carolina institution. |
| Student Identifier | The official number that serves to uniquely identify the student. Use the student's social security number where available. Otherwise, the institution will assign a unique nine-digit number. |

| <u>S.C. Student</u> | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Data Attribute</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
| Birth Date | The calendar date of birth as reported by the student. |
| Citizenship | The code that indicates the country of the student's citizenship. |
| Gender | The gender of the student. |
| Geographic Origin / County Id | A code for the county of South Carolina in which the student resided at the time of the first admission to the institution. This data element is for in-state students only. |
| Race | An indication of the student's ethnic origin. |
| Residency Classification for Fee | Residency classification of the student for fee purposes according to the South Carolina statutes. |
| Geographic Origin - State/Oth | This field will contain the first reported Geographic Origin of the student enrolling in a South Carolina institution. |
| Student Identifier | The official number that serves to uniquely identify the student. Use the student's social security number where available. Otherwise, the institution will assign a unique nine-digit number. |