

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY**
Technical Program and Curriculum Committee
MINUTES
September 12, 2024

The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority's Technical Program and Curriculum Committee met virtually on September 12, 2024 via Zoom. Proper notice was given according to law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Beene, Chair
Cindy Hoover, Vice Chair
Mark Hess

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Debra Mikulka
Dr. Tiffany Anderson
Natalie Clark
Ray Frederick

The meeting was called to order by Chair Beene at 1:04 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A quorum was not present. As a result, the approval of the previous meeting's minutes was deferred until the next meeting when a quorum could be established. No official actions or decisions were made due to the lack of quorum, and the meeting proceeded informally with updates and discussion items.

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

ACT ON PROGRAM ALIGNMENT(S): INSTITUTION PROGRAM ALIGNMENT VERIFICATION PROJECT

Crystal Roberts, Associate Director for Workforce Development, presented on the Program Alignment Verification Project

Program Alignment focuses on four key objectives: incorporating industry input on necessary technical skills, identifying industry-recognized certifications, standardizing program content, and reducing variability in program length. Over the past year, Workforce Development staff have discovered instances of noncompliance in program alignment across several institutions, including discrepancies in program names, course offerings, and certification requirements.

In response, Associate Director Roberts outlined strategies for ensuring compliance. First, the Institution Program Alignment Verification process will begin on October 1, 2024. Institutions will review and verify that their programs meet alignment requirements, with the verification process concluding on March 1, 2025. Additionally, Workforce Development staff will review institution programs and update alignment data accordingly. Moving forward, annual realignment submissions will be required by July 1 each year, with a Presidential Acknowledgment Letter to follow by August 1, listing any non-aligned programs.

The results of the verification process will be presented to TEA in September 2025. The project was reviewed by board staff and is recommended for approval. Associate Director Roberts stood for questions, addressing concerns about the extended timeline, noting the need for institutions to thoroughly check both their internal records and public-facing materials for compliance.

Member Mark Hess inquired whether there had been an opportunity to consult with Northwest Kansas Technical College (NWKTC) or North Central Kansas Technical College (NCKTC), as both institutions have been actively

involved in program alignment efforts with Fort Hays State University. He suggested that gathering their feedback on any issues encountered during their alignment process could provide valuable insights for the ongoing project.

Associate Director Roberts noted that while they had not specifically consulted NWKTC or NCKTC, similar discussions had occurred with other colleges. She mentioned that the topic had been introduced to the Perkins coordinators during their annual training in early August. Director Chambers added that she had personally discussed some of the program alignment updates with NCKTC, though not yet with NWKTC.

Member Cindy Hoover sought clarification on the timeline for the review, confirming that the process starting in October 2024 would pertain to the academic year 2025. Associate Director Roberts clarified that while institutions would need to have all their 2025 programs entered by March 2025, the program alignment maps would still adhere to a fall semester timeline, ensuring consistency with college catalogs and degree maps updates.

Chair Beene concluded the discussion by stating that they would revisit this topic during the discussion agenda for the TEA meeting scheduled for September 26, 2024.

NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Chair Beene reminded everyone about the upcoming virtual TEA meeting scheduled for September 26th and confirmed that the next committee meeting would be on October 17th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.