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Glossary of Terms

The following guidance provides definitions/clarification for the concepts of the New Skills for Youth Initiative.

Academy Steering Committee

The academy steering committee will provide guidance and oversight to the Regional Career Academy upon receipt of grant funds. The academy steering committee should be composed of:

- 50% business and industry representative with at least one representative from each high-demand sector and at least one representative from the local workforce innovation board
- 50% education representatives including school district superintendents, state and/or local technical center principals, and postsecondary partners

The Academy Steering Committee is distinct from the **Program Advisory Committee**, which advises on program development based on the employment needs of the community, state, regional, national and international marketplace.

Employer Partner

A local labor market area leader. The representative(s) should be from the private sector and working or engaged in fields that are related to the pathways of the Regional Career Academy and serve the needs of the state/region. The partner should be able to provide meaningful insight into career fields needed by the region, as defined by data, and job opportunities for students.

Career Hub

May be a separate physical location, program, multiple programs, or series of pathways within a Regional Career Academy that are aligned with a specific industry sector.

Certificates

Postsecondary Educational institutions award certificates to indicate completion of a program of study that does not culminate in a degree. Criteria vary widely among institutions—even within the same higher education system or state. Certificates are not the same as certifications.

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Community Partner

Non-profit organizations, area/economic development authorities, and workforce development entities. These partners can provide meaningful insight into career fields needed by the region, as defined by data, and can assist in convening key shareholders.

Degrees

An academic degree can be earned at many levels, including the associate (two years); bachelor's (four years); master's (two years beyond a bachelor's degree); and doctoral, which is several years beyond a master's degree.

A degree program differs from certificates and diploma programs in that it often requires the student to take general education courses through a college or university to support a more well-rounded education. For instance at many universities, those earning their bachelor's degree are required to take English, math, science, philosophy, and history.

Dual Credit Courses

Dual credit courses are college-level courses that simultaneously earn secondary and transcribed college credit, and count toward a postsecondary degree or credential. Approved dual credit courses (per KRS 164.786) do not include developmental education courses. Dual credit courses can vary in three dimensions—where they are taught, by whom they are taught, and when they are taught.

High Demand Sectors

Sectors with the most projected job openings over the next five years, according to the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics (KCEWS), which also have an average annual wage for the entire sector of at least \$35,000. Kentucky's top five sectors are Advanced Manufacturing, Business & IT Services, Construction, Healthcare, and Transportation & Logistics.

Industry Certifications

Industry certifications are awarded by a third party, often a professional organization, business or industry. A standard setting entity assesses and confirms the applicant's competence against standards in a particular occupational area.

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Letter of Commitment

An official correspondence from each grant partner demonstrating their commitment to serve on the **Planning Team** and outlining how they will be involved in the work of exploring the possibility of a Regional Career Academy.

Licenses

Licenses are the credential most similar to qualifications in that they serve as the sole ticket of admission to an occupation; one cannot practice without one. Earning a license to practice usually requires examination by a licensing board of experienced practitioners in the same field. It frequently requires that the applicant complete a prescribed course of study that present a certificate or degree attesting to successful completion of that program.

Locally Operated Technical Center

A school or series of programs primarily serving secondary students offering academic and occupational programs suitable for fulfilling high school credit requirements and attaining occupational goals and objectives. Per 705 KAR 2:140, the center must offer five (5) or more technical preparation programs that lead to skill development focused on specific occupational areas. Locally Operated Technical Centers and locally operated technical programs are administered by school districts.

Planning Team

The group that will collaborate to explore the possibility of a Regional Career Academy in accordance with the terms of this grant. The group will be comprised of representatives of those groups required for eligibility, including: one representative from each participating school district, one representative from each postsecondary partner, one community partner, one representative from each technical center involved, and representatives from business and industry.

Postsecondary Partner

College, university, technical college, proprietary school, training program, or other institution of higher learning that affords dual or articulated credit opportunities, provides diplomas, certificates, certifications, or occupational licensing as well as other benefits to students.

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Program Advisory Committee

A group of persons outside the education profession who advise CTE educators, administrators, and local board of education members regarding programs, based on the employment needs of the community, state, regional, national and international marketplace. This group may be composed of employers, intermediaries (Chambers of Commerce, Health Department, Extension Agents, etc.) and parents recognized and respected in their own fields of work.

The Program Advisory Committee is distinct from the **Academic Steering Committee**, which provides guidance and oversight to the regional career academy upon receipt of grant funds.

Programs of Study

A program of study is a comprehensive, structured approach for delivering academic and technical studies that prepare students for postsecondary education and career success. At the secondary level, a program of study:

- Is a rigorous, non-duplicative sequence of, ideally, at least four CTE credits aligned with college-ready academic courses. Kentucky holds that programs of study should include at least four CTE credits.
- Offers students the opportunity to earn postsecondary credits while in high school.
- Leads to industry-recognized credentials and postsecondary credentials, certificates, and degrees.
- Feature aligned work-based learning experiences that help students transition successfully to postsecondary education, training, and/or the workplace.

Regional Career Academy

For the purpose of this grant, the Kentucky Department of Education defines a Regional Career Academy as an all-day learning environment established in partnership with multiple school districts, state and/or locally operated career and technical centers, postsecondary partners, community partners, and business and industry partners where students participate in a combination of academic and career and technical education classes. Regional career academies are driven by state and regional labor market demands providing students grades 9-12 seamless transitions into postsecondary education and training opportunities and/or the workforce. In addition, the regional career academy includes strong career advising programs, dual credit course work, and related work-based learning experiences that lead to knowledge, skills, and/or

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credentials essential for success in postsecondary endeavors including but not limited to college, training programs, workforce, and military.

Registered Apprenticeship

A plan containing all terms and conditions for the qualification, recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices, as required under KRS Chapter 343 and 29 CFR parts 29 and 30, including such matters as the requirement for a written apprenticeship agreement.

State-Operated Area Technical Center (ATC)

A school primarily serving secondary students offering academic and occupational programs suitable for fulfilling high school credit requirements and attaining occupational goals and objectives. Area Technical Centers are administered by the Kentucky Department of Education.