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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Workforce Administrators

FROM: Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D.

DATE: December 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Program Certification Requirements for FCS Automotive Service Technology (AST) Programs

Contact Information

Bob Blevins
850-245-9015
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Sections 1004.925, Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires that all automotive service technology programs be industry certified in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education. In 2011, the State Board of Education adopted Rule 6A-6.05731, Florida Administrative Code, regarding the certification requirements for these programs. In addition, the statute specifies the following:

Effective with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, students enrolled in an automotive service technology education program that is not industry certified pursuant to this section shall not be eligible to be reported for state funding.

When reviewing each institution's compliance with this rule, the Division of Career and Adult Education analyzes the three most recent years of reported enrollment, as well as certification dates provided by the certifying agency. For the 2022-2023 reporting year, enrollment in 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-22 will be used to determine which institutions are required to meet s. 1004.925, F.S. Institutions that do not meet the requirements during a survey week would be ineligible to report enrollments for funding. For the 2022-2023 year, the Florida College System windows for reporting data are as follows:

Reporting Window 1E: August 12 - September 30, 2022
Reporting Window 2E: January 6, 2022 - March 10, 2023
Reporting Window 3E: March 31 - June 9, 2023

Kevin O'Farrell, Ph.D.
Chancellor of Career and Adult Education

The process the division uses for determining institutions that may be out of compliance is as follows:

1. Determine institutions that reported enrollment in at least one AST program in the 2019-2020 reporting year.
2. Determine which institutions also reported enrollment for 2020-2021 and/or 2021-2022. This includes enrollment in programs teaching AST standards in another program such as transportation technology.
3. Determine if the institution will be certified during the survey week.

If an institution had enrollment in 2019-2020, but is no longer offering an AST program, the district may continue to receive a letter once the institution falls out of compliance, unless the following items are fulfilled:

- The institution has no reported enrollment for two full years; or
- The institution has no reported enrollment for one full year, and the division has received a letter from the Career and Technical Education director notifying us of closure of the program; or
- If the school was certified, the division has received a letter from the certifying agency confirming closure of the program.

Attached to this memo, you will find enrollment history for the past three years (2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022) for all postsecondary institutions that reported enrollment in an AST program in 2019-2020.

Colleges identified in the attachment that are not certified by the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Education Foundation or whose certification expires before the reporting window dates will not be able to report enrollment for funding. These institutions may contact Bob Blevins at 850-245-9015 or Robert.Blevins@fldoe.org to provide accreditation documentation or discuss accreditation status. He may also be contacted if the program at a school falls under the accreditation of another school site or if you have questions regarding the current status of the accreditation for a school's AST program.

KO/bb

Attachment