Michigan Makes Strides on Training Provider Data

Officials working on Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) implementation can read this one-pager to learn how Michigan is improving performance reporting on training providers. Like many states, Michigan is working on policy reforms, technology upgrades, and stakeholder engagement to make better data about the results of WIOA-training services.

Federal Updates

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced that it will suspend operation of the Federal Employment Data Exchange System (FEDES) starting in January 2018, which facilitates state use of data on federal and military employees to report on the outcomes of workforce development programs. DOL plans to consult with state and federal leaders to evaluate the feasibility of a system overhaul.

Data in the States

Indiana’s P20W longitudinal data system has been renamed from the Indiana Network of Knowledge (INK) to the Education and Workforce Development database (EWD). EWD is maintained by a new state agency, the Indiana Management Performance Hub (MPH), which helps Indiana state agencies use data to gain insight and improve outcomes for Hoosiers. In June, seven Massachusetts agencies (the Executive Office of Education, the Department of Early Education and Care, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, The Department of Higher Education, The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, The Department of Unemployment Assistance, and the Department of Career Services) signed a memorandum of understanding authorizing them to share data for a Statewide Longitudinal Data System. The system will allow the state to “enhance evidence-based policymaking for the Commonwealth’s education and career development pipeline.”

WDQC on the Road

WDQC Director Rachel Zinn addressed the National Conference of State Legislatures Summit in Boston on using data to build a skilled workforce.

Policy Analyst Christina Pena presented on workforce data and college transparency during a board meeting of the Institute for Higher Education Policy in Washington, DC.

Other Resources

The Education Commission of the States produced a policy brief on recent state legislation related to state longitudinal data systems.

The Association of Public Data Users will hold its Annual Conference in Arlington, Virginia, September 13-14.

Advance CTE will host its Fall Meeting in Baltimore on October 16-18, including sessions on using data to define high quality CTE and using labor market information effectively.