

Proposal from State Workforce Agencies / Boards - 690.94(a)(2)

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690.94(a)(2)

(i) For the 2026-27, ~~and~~ 2027-28, ~~and~~ 2028-29 award years only, as determined through a certification from the Governor, based on the Governor's analysis using administrative data, including wage records, that the eligible workforce program meets the following standards—(A) A completion rate of at least 70 percent, within 150 percent of the normal time to completion; and

— (B) A job placement rate of at least 70 percent, calculated as the percentage of student that are employed during the second quarter after exiting the program;

(ii) For each award year after the 202~~78~~-2~~89~~ award year—

— (A) A completion rate of at least 70 percent, within 150 percent of the normal time of completion, as determined under 34 CFR 668.8 (f); and

— (B) A job placement rate of at least 70 percent, calculated as the percentage of students who are employed in the occupation for which the program prepares students (as identified through the process established under 34 C.F.R. 690.93 (b)) or a comparable high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand occupation during the second quarter after successfully completing the program, as determined through a certification from the Governor, based on the Governor's analysis using available administrative data, including wage records.

Rationale:

States are at differing stages of developing and implementing enhanced wage record systems, and many will certainly require additional time to build the technical and operational capacity necessary to report on the metrics described in (ii)(A) above. Establishing the proposed three-year ramp-up period provides a more realistic, yet still ambitious, timeline for this work. In many states, implementation will require procurement processes, negotiation of new or amended data-sharing agreements, acquisition of resources or budget authority, and, in some cases, enabling legislation. These activities can be particularly time-intensive in states with legislatures that meet biennially or have constrained legislative calendars. Providing an additional year of ramp-up time supports orderly implementation across diverse state contexts and reduces the risk of states needing to prepare “adequate progress” justifications before systems and infrastructure can reasonably be expected to be in place.