

Kentucky

Kentucky Department of Education R372A120028

Project Title: *The Future of Kentucky's P-20 Collaborative: Improving Connections to Postsecondary Education, Educator Preparation Programs, and the Workforce*

Project Description: On behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Department of Education is requesting \$3.63 million over a three-year period from the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program to expand and enhance the postsecondary, educator preparation, and workforce data linked to the state's existing P-20 data system—which is maintained by the P-20 Data Collaborative (hereafter referred to as the “Collaborative”). This proposal addresses **Priority 3** in the Request for Applications: Postsecondary and/or Workforce Data. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) will serve as the key partner and fiscal agent for the grant, but the majority of funding will support the Collaborative, a separate entity which is administratively housed within the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet. Significant portions of proposed activities will occur at and be directed by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB).

This project has three primary goals: 1) to incorporate a variety of workforce and employment data sources into the Collaborative's existing P-20 repository of linked, unit-level K-12, postsecondary, and educator preparation and certification data; 2) to expand the scope and quality of the state's postsecondary data system which provides college and university data to the Collaborative; and 3) to expand the scope and quality of the state's data on educator preparation and certification and make this data available to the Collaborative.

With the inclusion of workforce and expanded postsecondary and educator data the Collaborative will be able to answer a much wider range policy questions of interest to policy makers including workforce outcomes. An enterprise BI tool is also requested, which will enable authorized stakeholders at many levels across the state to have secure access to actionable information.

Kentucky's experience linking K-12, postsecondary and educator data while building the current P-20 repository highlights the need for deeper, more systematic data validation at all stages of data collection. Particular problems were discovered with data from the agency source systems for postsecondary and educator data, which are housed at the CPE and the EPSB respectively. Funds are requested for a number of system expansions in these systems to improve data quality standards during the data collection process.

Teachers, principals and other K-12 educators are an area of the workforce that is of particular interest to education leaders and policymakers at all levels. Expansion and improvement of the educator data collected by the EPSB will permit a deeper examination the teacher pipeline, and the addition of workforce data to the Collaborative will enable the flow of teachers in and out of the profession to be understood and tracked. Improved public reporting on Kentucky's educators will help stakeholders within the education system and without, including parents and students, make better decisions at the state level and locally (deliverables 3.1 and 3.2).
