

# **Right Signals Grant**

## **Michigan Educator's Apprenticeship and Training Association Conference**

**May 23, 2017**



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# Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of **The Right Signals Initiative** is to demonstrate a new credentialing model that recognizes multiple quality credentials to send "the right signals" to employers, students, and colleges about the meaning of these credentials.

*Grant from American Association of Community Colleges with support from the Lumina Foundation*



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# Project Plan of Action

1. Survey Employers to Assess Needs
2. Build Stackable Program(s) Related to Needs
3. Utilize Beta Credentialing Framework
4. Expand Beta Credentialing Framework into Existing Programs
5. Add Additional Coursework in Other Divisions
6. Credit-Non Credit Crosswalk



# Survey Summary

1. Survey Distributed in Fall 2016
  - a) 23% employ fewer than 10 people
  - b) 60% employ 50-100; 101-250; 250+
  - c) 90% plan to add employees in the next year
2. Responses Indicated:
  - a) Job-specific skills (blueprint reading, Welding, ISO9000, etc.)- Nearly 90% at least “somewhat needed”
  - b) Workplace skills (attendance, flexibility, customer services, etc.)- Nearly 90% at least “somewhat needed”
  - c) Critical Thinking (problem solving, decision making, etc.)- Just over 75% at least “somewhat needed”



# Survey Continued

- d) Computer Skills (word processing, spreadsheets, CAD/CAM)- 75% at least “somewhat needed”
- e) Personal Characteristics (responsibility, initiative, etc.)- 80% at least “somewhat needed”
- f) Manufacturing Skills (shop math, precision instruments, quality control, etc.)- Over 90% at least “somewhat needed”
- g) Basic Academic Skills (writing, reading, verbal, etc.)- only 50% at least “somewhat needed”



# Future Projects

1. Beta Credentialing Framework
  - a) Advanced Integrative Manufacturing (AIM)
  - b) Computer Information Systems
  - c) Medical Assistant
  - d) Heating/Refrigeration
2. Additional Coursework to Address Needs
  - a) Technical Writing Course
  - b) Career Skills Course with Internship
3. Credit to Non-Credit Crosswalk
4. Advertising for AIM program



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