

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, February 10, 2012

DECISION ITEM D: Approval of Core to College Grant Coordination Agreement

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission for Higher Education authorize staff to enter a contract agreement with the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis.

Background

The Core to College grant initiative is intended to support the implementation and use of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and assessments. Desired outcomes include a statewide definition of college readiness, postsecondary use of common assessments for college placement decisions, and academic alignment across the K-12 and higher education sectors.

To coordinate Indiana's grant efforts, Trish Wlodarczyk with the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis has been named the state's Core to College Alignment Director. In this role, Wlodarczyk will be responsible for overseeing Indiana's alignment plan and coordinating related activities. Prior to joining CELL as coordinator of Indiana's New Tech High School Network, Wlodarczyk oversaw the implementation of the Indiana Department of Education's high school End-of-Course Assessments.

Indiana joins nine other states, including Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon and Washington, that will each receive \$200,000 per year for three years from Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors. Grantee states were selected based on geographic diversity, assessment consortia membership, and demonstrated capacity to undertake this work, including existing collaborations and project plans aligned with the goals of Core to College.

Funding for Core to College is provided by the Lumina Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The partners developed Core to College with the assistance of Education First Consulting, which will provide continuing project management. Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, the program's fiscal sponsor, is responsible for grant decisions and all aspects of ongoing grant administration.

Supporting Documents

Core to College Grant Agreement