Policy Priority 4:
TRANSPARENT CREDENTIAL PATHWAYS

Clear Pathways to Credentials and Careers that Consider All Learning

When all learning counts, we can build systems that include and build upon past learning to provide clear pathways to postsecondary certificates and degrees. By creating pathways that are transparent, stackable, easy-to-access, and aligned to in-demand careers, we can remove unnecessary barriers to educational attainment and value the unique journey each person takes to achieve their educational and professional goals.

MUST-HAVES

| Foundation	✓ Create clear and easy to understand pathways that communicate to students how competencies/credits mastered/earned in different settings (military, on the job, correctional facilities, CBO's, etc.) build towards specific degree credentials. ✓ Ensure that pathways are widely accessible to the general public. ✓ Disseminate stackability information to workers via Workforce Investment Boards and major employers.
| Equity	✓ Require Black, Latinx, and Native American policymakers, institutional leaders, and students be involved in creating policy or regulation. ✓ Ensure affordable opportunities for students to complete non-credit training that stack to a degree or credential. ✓ Address equity gaps uncovered in annual reports by focusing on the policies and practices that contribute to inequity and shift policy as necessary. ✓ Mandate systematic examinations of how any proposed policies or decisions may affect different racial, ethnic, and other relevant demographic groups.
| Accountability	✓ Publish annual reports that examine student progression through credential pathways.

| Quality	✓ Create state-generated list of stackable credentials that lead to in-demand occupations and family-sustaining wages.
	✓ Publish annual reports that examine student progression through credential pathways and track the relationship between education data, licensure pass rates, and employment/wage data.
	✓ Establish statewide standards for faculty expertise on review panels.
| Affordability	✓ Ensure that students do not need to re-take courses or pay to "learn" competencies they have already mastered.
	✓ Create policies to ensure that non-credit training is applied to degrees and credentials at little to no cost for students.
| Additional Facilitating Policy Reform	✓ Adult learner re-engagement policies.
	✓ Creation of searchable statewide website.
	✓ Licensing reform.
	✓ Apprenticeship degree programs that stack to bachelor's degrees.