

NEW ENGLAND BOARD of HIGHER EDUCATION



Legislative Advisory Committee Meeting **Monday, March 16** **11:00 a.m – 12:45 p.m.** **Via Zoom Video Conference (*dial-in information below*)**

Agenda

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Sign On to Video Conference

Dial-in:

Meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/2642322454>

Meeting ID: 264-232-2454

If you phone in, dial: 646-558-8656 or 669-900-6833

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Integrating Industry, Education, and Workforce Development to Scale Work-Based Learning Opportunities: Statewide Approaches

To meet the needs of an increasingly competitive economy, employers across New England are increasingly eager to partner with postsecondary institutions to ensure that individuals have access to authentic learning experiences so they graduate job-ready. Yet, access to work-based learning (WBL) programs remains limited for far too many students, meaning that many individuals miss out on important opportunities to strengthen their skills and gain technical knowledge and experience to boost their employability. While there is not one universal definition of WBL, these programs aim to connect the classroom to careers. They generally involve a wage-earning, long-term employment relationship between a business and a worker in which the learning worker has the opportunity to develop measurable skills through instruction, both at a work-site and off-site at a school or training program. Such learning programs are intended to result in the measurable acquisition of skills and an industry-recognized credential, which should lead, over time, to higher wages and better career prospects. WBL includes apprenticeship, on-the-job training, and career and technical education with a work-site component. A state-wide approach to WBL can help states meet student and employer demand for such programs. In 2019, nine U.S. states passed legislation on WBL, including provisions to expand access to WBL, address barriers to expanding WBL, and raise public

awareness of WBL among key stakeholders, such as employers, parents, and students—all of whom require targeted messaging on the benefits of WBL. Regional experts will share the findings of the latest state-led WBL efforts and provide actionable policy recommendations.

Speakers:

Dr. Ross Gittell (New Hampshire), Chancellor, Community College System of New Hampshire, Member of National Governors' Association WBL Task Force

Alyssa Alvarado, Program Director, Real Jobs Rhode Island

Theresa Rowland, Interim President and CEO/Vice President of Sector Strategies, Commonwealth Corporation

Moderator: Rep. Gregg Haddad

12:00 – 12:15 p.m.

All Learning Counts–New England

In 2019, NEBHE received a grant from Lumina Foundation to launch All Learning Counts - New England (ALC-NE). This initiative seeks to increase and accelerate adult attainment of quality credentials in New England through new policies and programs related to recognition of learning (ROL), stackable credential pathways, new tools and resources and convenings of state policymakers, postsecondary education leaders and adult learners. This session will provide an overview of the project, as well as best practices and recommendations for further improvement.

Speaker:

Candace Williams, Director, Policy Research & Strategic Initiatives

12:15 – 12:45 p.m.

Open Discussion on COVID-19

Guiding Questions:

- How can NEBHE be of service to you as your state responds to the COVID-19 outbreak? What resources or data would be most helpful for the legislature to have?
- What legislative steps has your state already taken in response to the COVID-19 outbreak?
- What more needs to be done?

12:45 p.m.

Adjourn/Transition to Board Meeting