Missouri
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION ™

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Office of College and Career Readiness   205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480 • Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480 • dese.mo.gov

TO: CTE Advisory Council
RE: Approval of Industry Recognized Credentials (IRCs)

The IRC Committee met on September 10, 2019 to review IRC applications submitted by Missouri public school administrators. The window for submitting applications was March 1 through June 30, 2019. 33 applications were submitted. Of these, 16 were incomplete or nonresponsive, three were duplicates, and 15 were reviewed.

The committee determined that the following IRCs should be added to the current list:
1. MOLESK
2. Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Ramsay Corporation
3. Aviation Maintenance Technician—General, FAA
4. Medical Assistant Certification (CCMA) through the National Healthcareer Association (NHA)
5. Certified Phlebotomy Technician and Certified and Clinical Medical Assistant Certification, American Medical Certification Association (AMCA)

One current IRC, Cisco Certified Entry Level Network Technician (CCENT) will be removed from the IRC list as Cisco is eliminating it at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

The committee also recommends changing the current definition of an IRC as it does not include a reference to the credential being recognized by industry. The current definition of an IRC is "A portable, recognized credential that validates an individual has successfully demonstrated skill competencies in a core set of content and performance standards in a specific set of work-related tasks, single occupational area, or a cluster of related occupational areas."

The proposed definition is two-fold and defines an IRC and a stackable credential:

IRC
A comprehensive measure/assessment aligned to a core set of skills and standards within a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program that is recognized by industry and validates an individual's technical competence.

Stackable Credential
A series of aligned, recognized, preferred, and/or required credentials (stackable) within an industry or sector that support an individual's ability to obtain related, career employment.

The committee also recommends that DESE work with educators and industry partners to identify stackable credentials. Students earning two stackable credentials should then be considered to have earned an IRC.