# **Evidence-Based Practice for Workforce Outcomes**

This section lists potential near-term initiatives (up to 9 months) and longer-term projects (longer than 9 months) for the evidence-based practice on workforce outcomes pertaining to vocational training programs for dislocated workers and youth, post-secondary graduates from Illinois 2-year and 4-year colleges, and high school seniors in Illinois public high schools.

# Vocational Training Programs for Dislocated Workers and Youth

#### **Near-Term Initiatives**

The dislocated worker and youth projects document workforce outcomes through 2016. The record linking for these analyses could be extended to 2017 outcomes to understand whether, and if so how, workforce connectivity, career earnings and career job profiles may have changed with an additional year of labor market experience. This commitment to cohort updates is critical to revealing potential differential impacts of local economy shifts on career job trajectories.

## Longer-Term Projects

Establish a rigorous program evaluation methodology that moves the analytical context from descriptive findings to statistically-significant, ROI (return-on-investment) interpretations of training results.

### Graduates from Illinois 2-Year and 4-Year Colleges (College2Career)

## **Near-Term Initiatives**

Update the data environment with the 2014-2015 graduate cohorts and push the additional records into the smartphone-enabled web portal and SAS VA platform.

Develop and implement a strategic plan to promote utilization of the student/parent tool.

Increase the participation of colleges in the SAS-VA environment. Currently 43 colleges have an executed shared data agreement that grants their institutional researchers access to the SAS-VA environment with their matched student records.

Propose a series of workshops for IBHE and ICCB institutional researchers on the SAS-VA environment. The workshops would promote a hands-on experience (researchers using their school's matched student records) covering topics such as access to the SAS-VA environment, workforce outcome measures, data visualizations, metric development, SAS data analytics, and standard report development.

# Longer-Term Projects

Develop an on-line training to institutional researchers on the SAS-VA environment that would extend the subject matter expertise of the in-person workshops with particular focus on report development

Fully integrate the HighSchool2Career and College2Career data infrastructure to promote a robust evidence-based practice and product offering for stakeholders

## Illinois High School Seniors (HighSchool2Career)

#### Near-Term Initiatives

Release smartphone-enabled web application (ilhighschool2career) targeting students and parents for informing their Illinois college choice based on high school student profiles (tentative release in Summer 2019). This application will integrate intergenerational mobility, life-long learning, and workforce outcomes with high school and college metrics.

Establish a secure, server-based SAS Visual Analytics platform data analytic portal to support data visualizations and data analytic workspace for ISBE institutional researchers. The data analytic workspace provides authorized institutional researchers access to archived de-identified student records matched to FAFSA records, post-secondary enrollment and completion, and workforce outcomes.

Propose a series of workshops for ISBE institutional researchers on the SAS-VA environment. The workshops would promote a hands-on experience (researchers using their school's matched student records) covering topics such as access to the SAS-VA environment, workforce outcome measures, data visualizations, metric development, SAS data analytics, and standard report development.

Build an information pipeline to local school administrators to support evidence-based decision making. Establish information content that is relevant and timely.

### **Longer-Term Projects**

Develop an on-line training to institutional researchers on the SAS-VA environment that would extend the subject matter expertise of the in-person workshops with particular focus on report development

Fully integrate the HighSchool2Career and College2Career data infrastructure to promote a robust evidence-based practice and product offering for stakeholders

Establish the HighSchool2Career source data in the Illinois Administrative Data Research Facility and augment workforce outcomes with Midwest (Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky) employment and earnings record linkage