Developing New Federal Survey Data on Education, Training, and Credentials for Work

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Background

• The need for better data on education, training, and credentials for work (other than degrees) became apparent during the recession

• Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment (GEMEnA) formed in fall 2009

• GEMEnA member agencies: Education, Labor, Commerce (Census Bureau), National Science Foundation, Office of Management and Budget, Council of Economic Advisors
Four Strands of Work

1. Establish and deploy a core set of survey items related to the prevalence and key characteristics of industry-recognized certifications and professional licenses.

2. Establish and deploy a core set of survey items related to the prevalence and key characteristics of subbaccalaureate educational certificates.

3. Consider new measures of participation in education and training designed to prepare out of school youth and adults for work.

4. Support NCES in the development of a new household study focused on education, training, and credentials for work.
End Goal: Counts and Analysis

- **Counts**: Add key “do you have it?” items to on-going federal surveys (e.g., Current Population Survey, NCES surveys) → Better measures of education and credential attainment

- **Analysis**: Start a new survey of adults in households to get detailed information on portfolio of skill development (skill area; costs; perceived benefits; role of education institutions) → Better understanding of how adults acquire and build skills with labor market value
For More Information

Website: nces.ed.gov/surveys/gemena
Newsflash: ies.ed.gov/newsflash/ (adult and career education)

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