### Work Group Objectives and Deliverables for February 2016

#### Alignment of Standards for Advancing Student Opportunities

**Goal** 100% of students graduate from high school with 12-15 college credits and/or a professional certificate.

**White House Commitments**
- Conduct economic and workforce metadata analysis of workplace shortages and emerging career needs. *Completed*
- Create new courses aligned with the new Illinois Learning Standards and postsecondary expectations through faculty-to-faculty dialogue, creating shared expectations and aligning course content and rigor. *In progress at state level*

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| Collect, analyze, and share data on high school graduates who present college credit at postsecondary registration and students who qualify for developmental education in math and language arts. | 1. Review data collected for students entering from high school in fall 2011-2015.  
2. Determine potential uses and audiences for the data; e.g., opportunities in high school for “speed up” and “catch-up” as reflected by the data.  
3. Disseminate data and gather feedback on usefulness.  
| Present proposal for course creation teams to the HR 477 committee for scaling of 12th grade catch-up courses. | 1. Present and obtain feedback on the proposal for course creation teams to state agencies and the HR 477 committee.  
September 2016 – Report on schedule for course development, approval, and delivery. |
| Assess highest priority needs for dual credit courses and instructors as a basis for creating accelerated coursework to train dual credit instructors. | 1. Assess state agency efforts and determine appropriate next steps, collaborating if feasible.  
2. Survey member institutions to assess needs and priorities.  
3. Convene meeting of NIU providers to design programs for teachers to be qualified to teach dual credit courses in the priority content areas, including pedagogical components aligned with the new standards. | February 2016 – Share highest priority needs for dual credit courses and plans for next steps based on those needs. |
| Convene meetings of NIU, community colleges, and leading employers to review the emerging jobs reports and discuss the implications | 1. Request feedback from colleges comparing the emerging jobs reports with other workforce data on hand.  
2. Organize meetings with interested colleges and employers to discuss alignment of data with industry sector targets.  
3. Organize meetings to discuss implications of these reports for expanding or create new academic programs. | February 2016 – Report on community conversations about the validity and usefulness of the reports and potential changes in academic programs to meet needs identified in the reports. |