

December 4, 2015

Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 2018  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell,

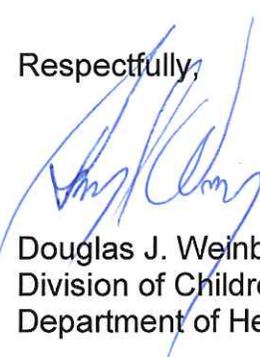
Nebraska Revised Statute 68-1735.02 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to report annually to the Legislature information regarding the number of Employment First participants who are, or who have been engaged in an Associate's Degree educational program for the past year, the graduation rates of such participants, the number of participants making satisfactory progress in their educational pursuits and the length of time these individuals participate in education.

The report also is to include the monthly earnings, educational level attained and employment status of these participants at six and 12 months after terminating participation. The final information requested is a summary of activities performed by the Department to promote postsecondary educational opportunities to participants in the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program.

The report is attached.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 402-471-1878.

Respectfully,



Douglas J. Weinberg, Director  
Division of Children and Family Services  
Department of Health and Human Services

**Nebraska Revised Statute 68-1721  
Report to the Legislature**

**Associate's Degree Information – October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015**

<b>Month</b>	<b># of Participants Pursuing an Associate's Degree</b>	<b># of Participants Making Satisfactory Progress</b>	<b>Average # of Months in Vocational Training</b>	<b># Participants Who Graduated This Month</b>
10/14	211	193	5.28	2
11/14	210	207	6.75	2
12/14	196	187	6.53	11
01/15	183	180	6.06	2
02/15	174	172	6.71	2
03/15	180	180	7.57	5
04/15	172	169	6.85	8
05/15	153	150	7.11	7
06/15	110	97	4.19	3
07/15	92	170	8.21	5
08/15	122	121	4.88	1
09/15	138	129	5.12	3

**Employment Information – October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Average Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>Employed Six Months</b>	<b>Employed 12 Months</b>
10/14	\$9.80	113	156
11/14	\$8.62	117	106
12/14	\$9.49	63	110
01/15	\$10.02	55	77
02/15	\$8.58	89	125
03/15	\$9.55	70	89
04/15	\$10.35	114	119
05/15	\$9.80	80	141
06/15	\$9.52	77	124
07/15	\$9.57	66	126
08/15	\$10.55	62	108
09/15	\$9.84	84	107

**Education Level on Employment – October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015**

Month	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 Grade	Certificate or Diploma	Associates Degree	Bachelor's Degree
10/14	12	138	16	23	4
11/14	6	100	7	12	3
12/14	6	79	4	6	1
01/15	9	74	7	15	6
02/15	4	87	11	9	3
03/15	5	88	8	12	3
04/15	8	113	10	13	2
05/15	5	141	12	23	1
06/15	4	120	7	14	3
07/15	9	125	5	14	5
08/15	2	66	5	11	2
09/15	6	40	4	7	2

**Summary of Activities – Promoting Post-Secondary Education**

The Department does not presently have formal activities that are intended to promote Post-Secondary Education opportunities for our participants. Upon entry into Employment First, participants are assessed to determine their current educational levels, their career interests, as well as any barriers they may have to attaining economic self-sufficiency. Following the assessment, case managers discuss with the participant the activities they may engage to reach their ultimate career goal. When the participant's goal requires additional training or education, it is encouraged by the case manager and included as a work activity in the participant's plan.