

December 1, 2014

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

Dear Mr. O'Donnell,

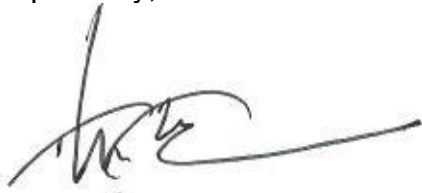
Nebraska Revised Statute 43-517 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to report annually to the Legislature information regarding the number of Employment First participants who are, or who have been engaged in an Associate's Degree educational program the past year, the graduation rates of 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 includes 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,



Thomas D. Pristow, MSW, ACSW, Director
Division of Children and Family Services
Department of Health and Human Services

**Nebraska Revised Statute 43-517
Report to the Legislature**

Associate's Degree Information – October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014

Month	# of Participants Pursuing an Associate's Degree	# of Participants Making Satisfactory Progress	Average # of Months in Vocational Training	# Participants Who Graduated This Month
10/13	347	339	7.44	7
11/13	306	286	5.89	1
12/13	270	254	6.56	10
01/14	271	252	6.23	3
02/14	276	265	7.25	3
03/14	285	267	6.42	3
04/14	269	255	7.36	3
05/14	235	226	7.56	7
06/14	180	176	6.93	3
07/14	143	138	6.52	7
08/14	163	152	6.33	5
09/14	186	178	5.56	3

Employment Information – October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014

Month	Average Hourly Earnings	Employed Six Months	Employed Twelve Months
10/13	\$9.64	101	156
11/13	10.01	135	155
12/13	9.32	104	152
01/14	9.27	126	133
02/14	9.64	154	114
03/14	9.57	124	130
04/14	9.99	117	170
05/14	9.62	107	146
06/14	9.53	69	218
07/14	9.57	103	176
08/14	9.18	147	196
09/14	9.64	941	253

Education Level on Employment – October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014

Month	11th Grade	12th Grade	Certificate or Diploma	Associates Degree	Bachelor's Degree
10/13	6	110	10	16	4
11/13	6	112	14	12	3
12/13	7	104	11	9	4
01/14	4	87	7	10	4
02/14	6	73	10	14	3
03/14	6	76	9	21	4
04/14	13	101	14	21	2
05/14	8	82	18	13	2
06/14	14	135	19	17	6
07/14	11	96	14	22	5
08/14	11	123	19	20	3
09/14	17	151	20	28	6

Summary of Activities – Promoting Post-Secondary Education

On 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 attain economic self-sufficiency. Following the assessment, case managers discuss with the participant 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 on the participant's plan.