



Form 1: Presentation Checklist

Name: _____

Date: _____

Department: _____

COCC Contact Information: _____

Use the instructions for this document to complete your presentation checklist; then e-mail your completed presentation checklist (*not* the instructions) to the Academic Affairs chair by his or her specified deadline. **Please note:** If an item listed is not relevant to your specific presentation to Academic Affairs, please mark as **N/A**. Use as many pages as necessary.

PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM

- Information Item (requires approval of AA Chair)
- Action Item
 - Information and committee feedback
 - Procedure—revision (Attach current procedure with proposed changes illustrated with track changes)
 - Procedure—new
 - Identify suggested location in *GPM*: _____
- Policy—revision (Attach current policy with proposed changes illustrated with track changes)
- Policy—new
 - Identify suggested location in *GPM*: _____
- New academic program (Complete only items #1 and #2 on this form and attach stage 2 document.)
- Other: _____

BUDGET

INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

OPERATIONAL NEEDS, CURRENT AND FUTURE

STUDENT IMPACT

ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

December 2, 2025

U.S. Department of Education
Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Re: Letter of Support for Central Oregon Community College (COCC)
FIPSE Grant Application; Short-Term Manufacturing Workforce Credentials

Dear Grant Review Committee:

On behalf of Redmond Economic Development Inc (REDI), I write to express our strong support for Central Oregon Community College's proposal to develop and expand high-quality, short-term manufacturing certificate programs. REDI creates a thriving business environment by supporting local businesses in our economic area. Through this work, REDI knows firsthand that the critical shortage of skilled welders, machinists, fabricators, and production technicians limits our region's growth and economic edge.

The workforce challenge is urgent. Traditional two-year training pathways do not meet immediate needs and working adults in our region struggle to access lengthy programs while supporting their families. We need shorter, stackable credentials that prepare workers quickly while maintaining the high skill standards the manufacturing industry requires.

This project directly addresses these needs. The proposed short-term certificates in Welding, CNC Operation, Fabrication, Quality Assurance, and Industrial Maintenance align precisely with local and regional hiring priorities. The stackable design allows workers to gain entry-level skills, join the workforce, and return for further training—a model that benefits both employees and employers. We are particularly supportive of the project's emphasis on:

- **Employer-validated curriculum** that reflects actual equipment, processes, and competencies used in our facilities
- **Work-based learning integration** providing students with real production experience before hire
- **Accelerated timelines** enabling faster workforce entry while maintaining quality
- **Talent marketplace connections** linking program completers directly to verified job openings

We commit to active partnership. REDI pledges to participate meaningfully in this project by serving on the Employer Advisory Board to validate curriculum and competencies; sharing real-time labor market intelligence to keep programs responsive to industry needs; connecting potential employers to program leaders at COCC.

The impact will be transformative. This project will create sustainable pathways into high-wage manufacturing careers for Central Oregon residents, particularly working adults, rural learners, and underserved populations. By expanding training capacity and modernizing program equipment, the college will produce the skilled workforce the manufacturing industry desperately needs to remain competitive and continue investing in this region.

We strongly urge the Department of Education to fund this proposal. Central Oregon Community College has demonstrated commitment to workforce development, and this project represents exactly the kind of innovative, employer-responsive training model needed to address manufacturing workforce shortages nationwide.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Curley
Director
Redmond Economic Development, Inc.
steve@edcoinfo.com