

## Memorandum

To: Michell Williams, Grant Manager, Lassen College

CC: Trevor Albertson, Acting Superintendent/President, Lassen College  
Wendy Porter, Regional Director for Employer Engagement, ICT/DM, Far North Region

From: Sara Phillips, Director, Center of Excellence (COE), Far North region

Date: January 8, 2020

Re: Program endorsement requests; Drone Data Collection, Data Science, and GIS Data Layering

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## Background

Lassen College requested program endorsement reports for new certificate offerings in Drone Data Collection Operations, Data Science, and GIS Data Layering. Occupations that align with each of these proposed programs closely align to occupations in the ICT/DM sector, specifically computer information systems (CIS) and security.

The COE prepared a program endorsement report for College of the Redwoods and Lake Tahoe Community College that included the same occupations for the same regions (North and Far North) in March, 2018. The COE also published a comprehensive statewide cybersecurity report in June 2018.

Reports for occupations related to Data Science and GIS were prepared in fall, 2019.

Lassen College should include these reports along with the present memo for the Regional Consortium application(s).

## Findings

- Existing and projected demand for occupations requiring CIS training and skills related to data science is strong.
- The fastest-growing occupation in the CIS industry is Information Security Analyst, with more than 20% projected growth.
- Occupations related to GIS are emerging and cross a variety of industries.
- Median wages for most of the occupations considered in these reports exceed the Lassen County living wage.
- Employing a simple supply/demand methodology based on three-year average award data and projected annual openings for each of the occupations relating to the proposed programs, there appears to be opportunity for program development.

## Recommendations

- Work with Regional Director of ICT/DM to refine and perhaps consolidate proposed certificate offerings.

- The COE recommends that Lassen College move forward with the proposed programs due to the apparent supply gap as well as strong projected demand for related occupations in the region and across the state.

COE Recommendation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Move forward with program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program is not recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional information needed

Please contact Sara Phillips, COE director, for further information at [sphillips@shastacollege.edu](mailto:sphillips@shastacollege.edu) or 530-242-7635.