Regional Compacts

Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.59 requires regional compacts of Ohio's public colleges and universities with an executed agreement in place by June 30, 2018. Each institution listed in the regions below should convene the appropriate parties to address each required area of the compact and enter into an agreement for the region stating how they will be collaborating in each of the areas outlined in the statute.

Each institution within the region must participate in the region's compact; however, the institutions may have agreements with other institutions, as well. Each college and university is also required to report the efficiencies gained as a result of the compact in their annual efficiency report to the chancellor. The efficiency reporting template for FY18 will be updated to reflect any additional reporting requirements.

The Department of Higher Education has compiled suggestions and potential resources that may be helpful in the formation of the compact agreements. This document is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of areas for consideration, but rather examples of tools that may be useful.

Regions

Regional campuses are considered to be in the same region as the main campus.

Central
- COTC
- Columbus State
- Marion Technical
- Ohio State University

Northeast
- Tri C
- Lakeland
- Lorain
- North Central State
- Stark State
- Cleveland State
- Kent State
- University of Akron
- Youngstown State
- NEOMED

Northwest
- Northwest State
- Rhodes State
- Owens State
- Terra State
- Bowling Green
- University of Toledo

Southeast
- Belmont
- Eastern Gateway
- Hocking Technical
- Rio Grande
- Washington State
- Zane State
- Ohio University
- Shawnee State

Southwest
- Cincinnati State
- Southern State
- Miami University
- University of Cincinnati

West
- Clark State
- Edison State
- Sinclair
- Central State
- Wright State

In addition to any agreement entered into in the regions listed above, each land grant institution shall also enter into an agreement providing for the creation of a compact that enhances collaboration between state institutions designated as land grant colleges.

Land Grant Institutions:
- Ohio State University
- Central State University

Each regional compact agreement shall do all of the following:

(1) *Examine whether unnecessary duplication of academic programming exists*;

Duplicative Program Reporting Requirements	Duplicative program reports, as required under ORC Section 3345.35, are due to the chancellor by December 31,2017. ODHE has prepared and previously disseminated lists of programs in each region that could be examined for duplication and a template that can be used for reporting.

(2) *Develop strategies to address the workforce education needs of the region*;

Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships	Participate in the Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships efforts. The Ohio Departments of Education and Higher Education will work with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation to develop a Regional Workforce Career Counseling Collaboration model. With this model, the JobsOhio Network, local chambers of commerce, school districts, businesses, Ohio Technical Centers and the higher education community will build county-level partnerships that provide career services to students.
Co-op & Internship Opportunities	Enhance internship and co-op opportunities by connecting student co-ops and interns with In-Demand occupations at private companies and organizations within regionally targeted industries. Additional resources and information are available online.
Apprenticeship Training	Consider ways to enhance apprenticeship training and collaboration with employers.
RAPIDS Grants	Participate in the RAPIDS grant process – The Regionally Aligned Priorities in Delivering Skills (RAPIDS) program was designed to align state investments against regionally verified workforce demand by investing funds for equipment, internships, & co-ops on a regional basis.

(3) *Enhance the sharing of resources between institutions to align educational pathways and to increase access within the region. For these purposes, the compact shall do all of the following:*
(a) *Provide and share resources and programming to improve academic performance and opportunities to address the workforce needs of the region;*

Course & Program Sharing	Based on the analysis completed by each institution for duplicative program reports, institutions should consider how to share courses and programs, and evaluate collaborative efforts moving forward. A "How-To" Guide for sharing courses and programs and other program-sharing resources are available online.

(b) *Identify, develop, and implement shared curriculum and resources to promote educational pathways that minimize the time required to earn a degree. This may include, but is not limited to, curriculum delivered using open educational resources and online formats;*

Guaranteed Transfer Pathways	Examine Guaranteed Transfer Pathways between Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs), Community Colleges and Universities. Institutions in each region can build upon the regional approach already under way in pathway development.
One-Year Option	Examine One Year Option pathways, which allow graduates of Ohio Technical Centers who complete a 900-hour program of study and obtain an industry-recognized credential approved by the Chancellor to receive 30 college technical credit hours toward a technical degree upon enrollment in an institution of higher education. Colleges and OTCs in each region should examine areas where further program alignment could occur.
3+1 Model Pathways	House Bill 49 requires the chancellor, in consultation with IUC and OACC, to develop a model for 3+1 agreements where a student can attend a community college for the first three years of a bachelor's degree and then complete the degree at a university with one additional year of study. Institutions in each region should consider using these models to develop 3+1 programs, where appropriate.
Mathematics Initiative Resources	Utilize resources being developed through the Ohio Mathematics Initiative. Ohio has been working to develop expectations and processes that result in each of Ohio's public colleges and universities offering pathways in mathematics that yield: (a) increased success for students in the study of mathematics; (b) a higher percentage of students completing degree programs; and (c) effective transferability of credits for students moving from one Ohio public institution to another.
Open Educational Resources	Utilize Open Educational Resources under development. North Central State College, in collaboration with Ohio State and Ohio Dominican universities, will develop open educational resources (OER) and other materials with 14 other community colleges in an effort to reduce the cost of textbooks for students. Faculty teams from the participating institutions will work to create and evaluate OER materials for up to 20 courses that are among the highest enrolled courses at the colleges and offered in high schools as College Credit Plus courses and three upper level mathematics courses. OhioLink will assist with project implementation, building on its open education strategies and initiatives.

(c) *Analyze operational costs and implement cost-effective procedures that support greater access and opportunities for students in the region.*

Asset & Operational Reviews	The Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education provided recommendations on asset and operational reviews that could be utilized for these provisions.

(4) *Reduce operational and administrative costs to provide more learning opportunities and collaboration in the region;*

Task Force Recommendations	The Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education has provided several recommendations for improving services and lowering costs to students. Colleges and universities have been using these recommendations as a basis for their annual reports through the chancellor's efficiency advisory committee. Institutions should continue to utilize the recommendations and consider additional opportunities for collaboration within each region.

(5) *Enhance career counseling and experiential learning opportunities for students;*

Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships	Participate in Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships (see (2) above).
Regional Organizations	Utilize regional organizations such as NOCHE & SOCHE.
NACE Resources	Utilize resources available through the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).
Internship & Co-op Opportunities	Enhance internship and co-ops opportunities (see (2) above).
Career Counseling Workshops	Participate in Career Counseling best practice workshops offered through the Department of Higher Education. ODHE sponsored two professional development opportunities for community colleges and universities in FY17, and is in the planning process for additional sessions regarding best practice in FY18. These convenings continue to leverage the strategic need for career counseling opportunities for students from the beginning of the educational pathway through completion.

(6) *Expand alternative education delivery models such as competency-based and project-based learning;*

CBE Overview	For an overview of competency-based education and what Ohio's campuses are doing, review the Condition Report on Competency-based Education.
Work in Partnership	Consider working with Sinclair Community College, Western Governor's University, or others in Ohio currently using competency-based education delivery models.
CBEN Resources	Consider joining the competency-based education network, CBEN, which is a "national consortium for designing, developing, and scaling new models for student learning."

(7) *Develop a strategy to increase collaboration and pathways with information technology centers, adult basic and literacy education programs, and school districts in the region;*

RAPIDS Grants	Participate in the RAPIDS grant process. *(See (2) above)*
Aspire Programs	Coordinate with local Aspire (formerly ABLE) programs to develop additional career pathways for adult learners. Consider ways to refer students to Aspire programs for free English and math skills training, as an alternative to remedial courses on campus.
Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships	Participate in Regional Workforce Collaboration Partnerships. *(See (2) above)*
OARnet & ITC's	Utilize services available through OARnet and coordinate with Information Technology Centers. OARnet delivers technology-based solutions to Ohio's education, health care, public broadcasting, and government communities. OARnet also provides broadband connectivity to Ohio's K-12 schools through a partnership with the Ohio Department of Education and its information technology centers (ITCs), and to public schools in large urban areas.
P-16 Collaborative	Engage local P-16 collaboratives.

(8) *Develop strategies to enhance the sharing of resources between institutions to improve and expand the capacity and capability for research and development;*

Ohio Innovation Exchange	Consider participating in the Ohio Innovation Exchange (OIEx), which will provide users with interactive, web-enabled tools to connect Ohio's university experts, college students, business leaders, and industry professionals in new information-driven ways. Expected launch of OIEx is March 1, 2018.
I-Corps	Consider participating in the I-Corps initiative, a statewide, university-based technology commercialization program that 1) qualifies commercialization strategies for new scientific discoveries; and 2) trains research scientists and student entrepreneurs in the advanced principles of technology entrepreneurship and commercialization.
Research Collaboration	Collaborate on research projects and develop quick response teams to significant state issues such as water quality, infant mortality, and opiate addiction.
"Venture Funds"	Consider establishing multi-institutional "Venture Funds" to advance innovation and commercialization across institutions.

(9) *Identify and implement the best use of university regional campuses to reflect the goals described listed in 1-8 above.*

Best Practices	Implement applicable best practices from co-located regional campus reports, while considering the statutorily required annual reviews of best practices and shared services (ORC 3333.951).
Review Strategies	Review items 1-8 above and consider how the distinct roles of the regional campuses can support or reinforce efforts in these areas.