Credential Engine Work Plan

I.   PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE

Alabama's credential registry will make it easy for potential students and employers to identify, understand, and compare credentials across the broad and complex credential marketplace. Each credential will be presented in a standardized format and will include competencies associated with a particular credential. The registry will be designed to serve all of Alabama's education and training providers (public, private, non-profit, for-profit, secondary and postsecondary) in entering credential information to be reviewed by the ACCCP and uploaded to the national Credential Finder database.

II.   PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Set up hardware and software infrastructure for collecting credential program data
- Develop portal for external providers to input data on credential programs, either manually or in batches
- Develop and deliver technical guidance for providers to upload data on ACCCP-approved credentials to ACHE portal

III.   TIMELINE AND ACTIVITIES

Oct--Dec   Infrastructure and Design

- Create master list of fields needed for Credential Engine Registry
- Upgrade servers to accommodate program data submissions from external providers
- Create sql database, tables
- Set up sql users, roles and security
- Review application design, draft website layout
- Determine information and reporting needs

Nov--Mar   Planning and Development (3-4 months)

- Organize system processes- the order data will be processed
- Create system framework and structure- create asp.net website and webpages
- Develop and code application- vb.net code that powers the website, create stored procedures

Mar--Apr   Testing (4-6 weeks)

- End-to-end testing – testing as the end user, from different institutions
- Cross-browser testing – testing website on different browsers (Edge, Chrome, Safari)
- Load and performance testing – load to production environment and perform final test

Apr--Aug   Technical Assistance (3-4 months)

- Development of guidance documents for education providers
- Delivery of convenings throughout the state to educate users on registry processes.