

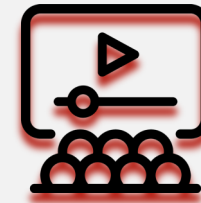
# Midwestern State Policies Related to Military-Connected Students and CBE/L

MHEC and NCHEMS webinar  
January 26, 2021

Presenters: Sara Appel and Gina Johnson



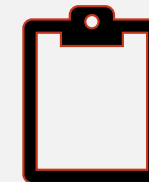
Presentation slides available in handouts.



A recording of the webinar will be sent.



Submit questions in the questions pane.



Please complete our survey.

# Presenters

**Sara Appel**  
Associate Director of  
Policy Initiatives  
MHEC



**Gina Johnson, PhD**  
Senior Associate  
NCHEMS



# NCHEMS and MHEC Grant Recipients



ABOUT US ▾

OUR WORK

RESOURCES & PUBLICATIONS ▾

WORK WITH US



## GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

The National Research Collaborative on Competency-Based Education and Learning at AIR supports research in competency-based education and learning (CBE/L), with the primary mission of building research to answer key questions prioritized by policymakers and practitioners. We invite and encourage researchers whose work aligns with our research agenda—those who are currently engaged in CBE/L research activities or those who have a strong interest in breaking into the field—to reach out with proposals for research partnerships or collaborations, field building tools that are tied to research, continuous improvement, or the use of data, or other projects. While there is no funding currently available, all research partners receive support making connections with other researchers, institutions, and data for analyses, in addition to support in amplifying and disseminating findings and products. If you have an idea for a partnership or collaboration, or would simply like to get more information about how to get involved with the National Research Collaborative, please complete this brief form.

<https://cberesearch.org/our-work>



# Webinar Agenda

- Overview of research questions and design
- Summary of policy scan findings
- Summary of policy interpretations findings
- Overall project summary
- Questions



# Poll Question #1

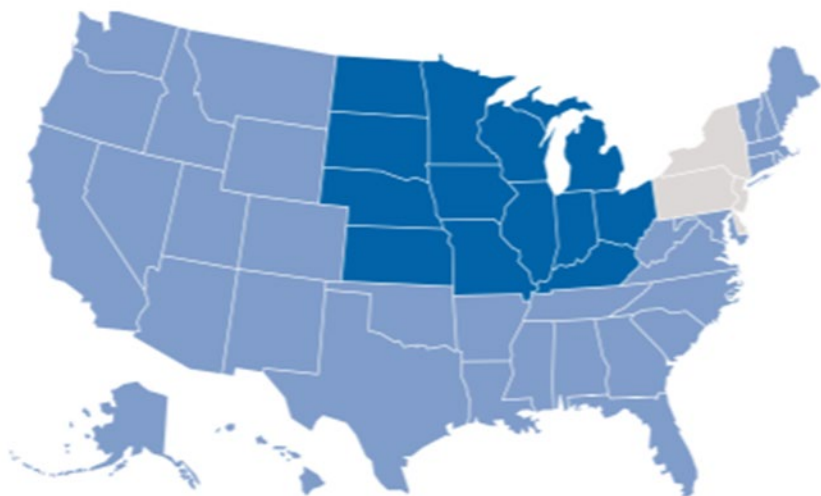
# Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit Mission

The mission of the Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) is to facilitate an interstate partnership of 13 states, and to translate competencies acquired by military-connected students through military training and experiences toward meaningful college credentials.

States exchange information and share best practices in the areas of articulation of credit, certification and licensure, communication, and data and technology.



# Research Questions



**13** PARTICIPATING  
**STATES**

ILLINOIS • INDIANA • IOWA • KANSAS  
KENTUCKY • MICHIGAN • MINNESOTA  
MISSOURI • NEBRASKA • NORTH DAKOTA  
OHIO • SOUTH DAKOTA • WISCONSIN

- What policies do the 13 states involved in the MHEC's MCMC have in place related to the review of military transcripts and experience for military-connected students entering or reentering postsecondary education?
- How are these policies generally interpreted by the state agencies involved with military-connected students in postsecondary education?

# Research Design



Primary research used to identify and understand related policies

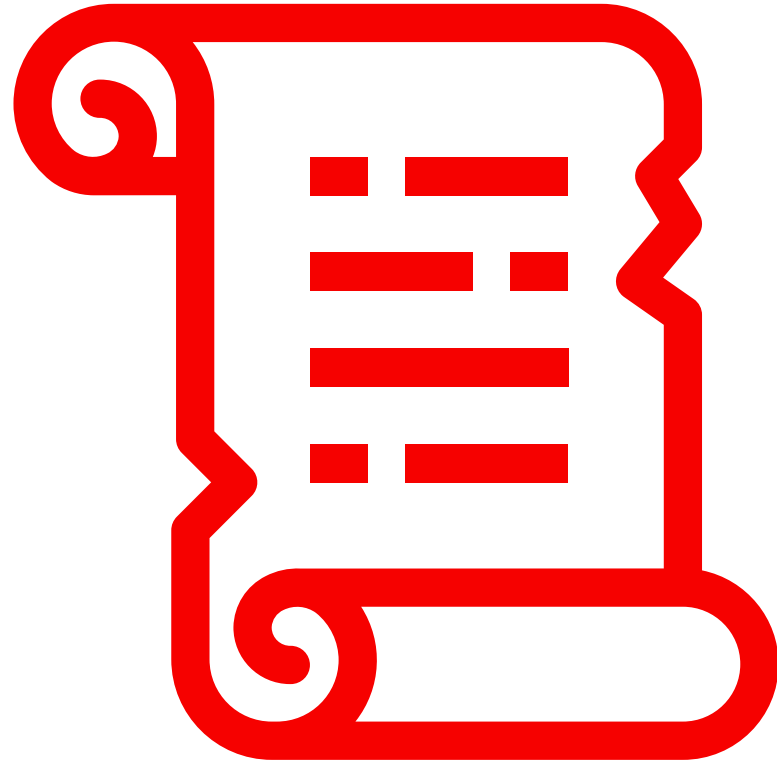


Followed by individual and/or team interviews of state higher education executive officers or related agencies to better understand the interpretation of the state policies



To date, a policy analysis has not been conducted reflecting on the affect these state and institutional policies have on CBE/L and its ties with military training and experience.

# Policy Commonalities and Variances



# Policy - Commonalities

- Use the word “requires”
- Refer to American Council on Education military credit recommendations and/or an equivalent E.g., Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
- Clarifies who the policy applies to

# Policy - Variances

- Includes license/certification agencies
- Must complete a CLEP, DANTES, or Excelsior College exam
- Requires a detailed report to the governor and general assembly regarding military-connected students in postsecondary education

# Poll Question #2

# Policy Interpretations Commonalities and Variances



# Policy Interpretations - Commonalities

- Often multiple entities in states are charged with policy follow-through
- American Council on Education (ACE) military credit recommendations are used for consistency
- Public institutions are required, private are encouraged or not mentioned
- Efforts on awarding credits for military experience and training connected to broader efforts on transfer and articulation

# Policy Interpretations - Variances

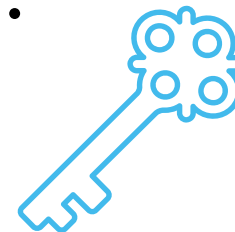
- Varying levels of reporting (aggregated student data and survey data) requirements by state
- Networks of professionals are variously engaged in collaborative work to encourage consistency across a state
- Variety in which entity or entities in a state is charged with follow-through, if any; sometimes interpreted at the institution level
- In some states, veterans entities are involved as well as postsecondary
- A few states collectively developed systems and toolkits to assist institutions in determining credit
- Variety at the national and state level in defining “veteran”



# Poll Question #3

# Summary - Key Findings

- Some states with policies doing exciting work related to:
  - Data reporting
  - Training
  - Consistency of practices in credit awarding



Common theme - legislative policies can provide accountability and coordination and document a state's interest in the success of military-connected students in postsecondary education. Many institutions want to do this well and having time, staff, resources, and a motivated network of colleagues can help them improve their ability to award meaningful postsecondary credit for military training and experience.

# Questions?

Please submit your questions in the questions pane.

Or we'll start talking about our dogs -- seriously.

# Thank You

**Sara Appel**  
Associate Director of  
Policy Initiatives

**MHEC**

[saraa@mhec.org](mailto:saraa@mhec.org)

**(612) 677-2778**

**Gina Johnson, PhD**  
Senior Associate  
NCHEMS

[gina@nchems.org](mailto:gina@nchems.org)

**(303) 497-0307**