

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM IX-I

Consideration of approving the recommendation to solicit and contract a design research firm to support implementation of the college and career advising efforts within the data modernization initiative.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Total Project Cost: Up to \$1,000,000
Source of Funds: Federal funds allocated through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds

Background Information:

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (Coordinating Board) is actively engaged in a comprehensive Data Modernization Initiative to facilitate improved insight and actionable education and workforce data. Federal funding was allocated for the Data Modernization Initiative through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds to support critical efforts to modernize and improve state educational and workforce data infrastructure, to better inform and support students and families on their paths from enrollment, to completion, to the workforce.

Included in the Data Modernization Initiative is an objective to improve college and career advising resources to help Texans map an efficient path to earn a high value credential and launch a sustainable career. To improve our college and career advising resources, the Coordinating Board is engaging with multiple stakeholders to develop and deploy new tools that turn data into actionable intelligence for students and families, institutions, employers, and policymakers.

The Coordinating Board is working collaboratively with its Tri-Agency partners, the Texas Education Agency and Texas Workforce Commission, to develop and implement an advising framework reshaped as a design project to expand toward more innovative approaches. Planning efforts are well underway and this collaborative, interagency team is moving forward to secure the resources needed to begin implementation. Specifically, the Coordinating Board proposes to solicit and engage a design research firm to lead a design thinking project centered on improving the alignment and delivery of college and career advising supports across the state.

THECB staff recommend approval for soliciting and entering into an agreement in order to secure the design research resources necessary to move forward with implementation of projects related to this initiative.

Jerel Booker, Assistant Commissioner for College Readiness and Success, will present this item and be available to answer questions.