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ARTICLE SUMMARY OF “ AN ENTERPRISE PLAN FOR OHIO” Board of Regents, System of Ohio Year: General Content Areas: improvement of employment rates after graduation; course updates to match manpower needs of the state; economic improvement through education revitalization and reduction of outdated mandates and regulations; updating curricula based on changing trends in the labor market
Full APA Citation:
University System of Ohio, Board of Regents. (2011). An enterprise university plan for Ohio. Ohio Higher Education.
Background/Context: The article shows the steps that the Board of Regents of the University System of Ohio will take in checking what needs to be changed in the curriculum in the university because many students take long in graduating, or stop schooling because they use their skills in other fields. The Board of Regents also wanted to revitalize their education system to fill in the many job openings available in the state which needed certain educational attainments, which in turn could be potential in increasing economic growth in the state. The university plan has just started on July 1, 2012, so the article has no full list of results yet.
Analytical Framework/Theoretical Basis:
Analysis centers on
Solving issues that keep Ohioans from becoming productive
Increasing agility and responsiveness of Ohio schools to the demands of society
Aligning curriculums to match the demands of the business sector
Improvement of affordability of education
Increasing the number of students becoming successful and having a job after graduation
Let universities operate as enterprises of the state to usher changes
Use of case studies from other states and their universities and apply what may be applicable
Innovations in universities are expected to drive fast economic progress through labor force
Cooperation with private and public job sectors can help in updating what the curricula needs
Major Findings:
Implementation of the university plan just commenced in July 1, 2012, thus no data yet to fully support the results. The following are expected to happen after implementation:
Updated curricula based on changing trends in the labor market
Economic improvement through
Education system revitalization
Reduction of outdated and duplicative mandates and regulations
Course updates to match manpower needs of the state
Improvement of employment rates after graduation
Some steps already taken (Board of Regents, 2011):
A cap on the allowable tuition fee increases of 3. 5%
Legislative mandate that establish three-year path for each degree, which saves students time and money, helping them get jobs faster and pay taxes sooner
Construction reforms to end obsolete contracting requirements, helping universities save 20%
Provided authority of sale or leaseback arrangements to attract private sector capital and management experts in investing in the universities
Conclusions/Implications/Recommendations/:
The Board of Regents of the University System of Ohio made the change in the educational system so that their graduates would become more productive and also to fill the need for professionals in the state of Ohio, both in the business and education sector. Because the plan just started on July 1, 2012, not many results are out yet, but the prevention of high tuition fee increase, faster educational track, saving in school constructions, and inviting investors to generate funding in the universities were already started. The Board of Regents expects that when the changes have all started, there would be an economic growth in the state, more jobs will be filled in, and more students will become productive and better at their careers.
The implications of the plan would be that more students can go to universities because the tuition fees are lower, and more will graduate on time and have jobs because the curricula would be more fitted to application in the real world and taught at a faster and more effective rate. The schools can also increase their funding because of additional investors, and their potential of being an economic strength can be released.
It is recommended that the results of the changes be checked after one or more years of implementing so that the Board of Regents can see whether the changes made an impact on the labor forces of businesses in Ohio, in the universities’ school standards, and also of the students that graduate from Ohio universities.
Reference
University System of Ohio, Board of Regents. (2011). An Enterprise University Plan for Ohio. Ohio Higher Education.