Shawnee State
UNIVERSITY

November 26, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written to support the Straight-A Grant, Making College and Career Pathways and Opportunities Real and Relevant for All Lawrence County Students. Shawnee State University is committed to supporting our regional students' access and completion of post-secondary education that leads to a career.

Early college and career planning is crucial. The Making College and Career Pathways and Opportunities Real and Relevant for All Lawrence County Students grant provides the support for the students to begin their research on the types of education and skills that will prepare them for the world of work in their field of interest. Of course successful entry into careers after high school and/or postsecondary leads to successful employees.

The four pathways personalized for each school (business/entrepreneurship, arts/communication, STEM and health/human services) connect with the regional data Shawnee State has been researching. Our higher education institution provides majors/degrees with all four of the pathways. Our Student Career Development office liaisons between the students we serve and the employers of the region. Nikki Karabinis, SSU Director of Student Career Development, has reviewed the grant proposal and is excited on the identification of the four pathways. She has shared that those four are among the most requested for Internships and have employment opportunities within our Appalachian region.

Shawnee State University is committed to the Straight-A Grant that will make college and career pathways a reality for all students in Lawrence County. Please consider this letter, a strong endorsement for Making College and Career Pathways and Opportunities Real and Relevant for All Lawrence County Students. If you have additional concerns or simply wish to discuss the endorsement of the grant, please contact me via email: bhaas@shawnee.edu or phone 740-351-3299.

Respectfully,

Brenda Haas

Dr. Brenda S. Haas
Dean, University College
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