



Philip E. Austin  
*Interim President*

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Two Whom in May Concern:

The Connecticut State Colleges & Universities (ConnSCU) strongly supports **The CT Academy** proposal created by Charter Oak State College and the CT Distance Learning Consortium. This project creates a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning solution for the State workforce. This project, which will launch in 2014, will benefit our organization by providing training in a more cost effective and efficient way and allow our existing staff to expend their energies in alternative ways to further support the State's workforce training needs. In addition, it will increase the access of State employees to training "on demand." This approach will also manage registration, completion certificates, training reports for HR agency staff, and help desk functions.

Aside from the benefit to our agency, this proposal is designed to address multiple State of Connecticut workforce development needs and to meet the Governor's strategic priority of increasing employee efficiency and productivity. Other state agencies that include the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Central CT State University, Charter Oak State College, and the CT Distance Learning Consortium combine the teaching and instructional design expertise provided through existing training to multiple state agencies, learning content, software licenses, registration systems, program administration, web expertise, and hardware investment and maintenance. These pooled resources will significantly reduce the cost of the program's development, ongoing maintenance, and administration.

**The CT Academy** will be a strong addition to the statewide network of initiatives already launched in support of technology innovation in our state, yet it will be differentiated because its major objective is to maximize training for state employees. The Academy with its existing multi-agency partnerships will continue to solicit state agency partners in order to provide cost effective online, asynchronous training courses/programs to meet the individualized needs of each agency and state employee. These initiatives, which provide required employee training, micro skills training, and broad skills training will effectively "right size" training across the large number of state agencies and their employees to improve the quantity and quality of service to CT citizens.

The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (ConnSCU) is excited to be part of the partnership to develop of a 21<sup>st</sup> century training platform for the State of Connecticut. We strongly endorse the CT Academy proposal and request your support to fund this initiative. If I can answer any additional questions please let me know.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Austin, Interim President  
CT Board of Regents for Higher Education

