



Enhancing Programs for IT Certification Third Party Report of Deliverables

Deliverable: Internet Location Resource Handout

Reviewer: Misty Frazier, LCSW

Hazard Community & Technical College, one of 16 colleges in the Kentucky Community & Technical College System, was awarded \$10 million through the United States Department of Labor’s Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program to partner with five other KCTCS schools in a project called Enhancing Programs for IT Certification (EPIC), a three-year program aimed at supporting distance education in the information technology fields by expanding the Learn on Demand delivery mode and providing academic and career coaching to students.

Deliverable Information/Description: Attached

Evaluation Rating:

Based on your expertise, how would you rate the product’s ability to meet standards with your field?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Needs Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete

Summary:

Based on the knowledge of the deliverable, please summarize your review of the deliverable below in 2-3 paragraphs.

The purpose of this review to assess the Internet Location Resource Handout provided by the EPIC Consortium titled *Wifi Resources PDF*. It is my understanding that the EPIC Consortium recognized that the lack of reliable internet access, especially in the eastern portion of the state, could be a barrier to distance education. They agreed that distance learning students needed alternatives for accessing the internet if their home networks or devices become unavailable. To address this need, each EPIC Consortium College was tasked with gathering information about the free WiFi resources available in their areas and compiling a list of locations, noting whether computers were available or the student should bring their own device to assess the WiFi. Together, they created a resource handout for their service regions. This resource handout was then added to the EPIC website so that students, faculty, and staff could access it.

Upon review of the document titled *Wifi Resources PDF*, I found the following identified strengths.

1. Each service area was clearly defined by a heading that listed the college it represents; 6 colleges in total (Big Sandy Community and Technical College, Jefferson Community and Technical College, Hazard Community and Technical College, Somerset Community College, Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College, and West Kentucky Community and Technical College).

2. The counties within the service region were used as subheadings and they were in alphabetical order under each specified service area (except for Jefferson Community and Technical College).
3. For each agency listed, it was clear if you needed to bring your own device or if computers were provided for you.

Upon review of the document titled *Wifi Resources PDF*, I found the following potential opportunities for change and/or growth, in no particular order.

1. Jefferson Community and Technical College does not follow the same formatting guidelines as the other five colleges. I realize this inconsistency may be due to the size of the service region. However, I recommend following the same county by county format as with the other five colleges.
2. Agencies identified as WiFi resources could be organized in alphabetical order under the county subheading. They do not appear to be in any particular order at this time.
3. For each agency listed as a WiFi resource, the address and hours of operation could also be provided.
4. Do any of the WiFi resources require an access code? If so, what is that code?
5. There is discrepancy between using the word "county" after the name of the county. Most counties are identified by name only, however, Whitley and Casey and identified as Whitley County and Casey County.
6. There are five counties with no WiFi resources listed. This could be the result of a number of factors. It may be due to the size of the county or its location. I would recommend continuing the search for resources in these counties. For example, I contacted Owsley County Adult Education and they agreed that students could use WiFi at their location.
7. Each county could be listed separately and in alphabetical order, independent of their service area. This would make the document more user friendly for those who travel and are not familiar with which college covers which county. There is potential to make this a separate document. One Internet Location Resource Handout could be broken down by service area and one Internet Location Resource Handout could be broken down by county. Supplying two documents, would allow students to choose which mode is most user friendly for their individual need.

Signature:

Misty Ferguson, LCSW

Date:

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EPIC
••• *READY SET LEARN*