Career and Technical Education (CTE) FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

State Funding

History of state approved vocational education weighted funding (.5)

In July 1992, a new school finance formula allowed school districts in Kansas to apply a weighting factor (.5) to their full-time equivalency (FTE) enrollment figures for students participating in state-approved vocational education programs. Schools had to meet new, strict standards. As a rule, only junior and senior courses were approved for the extra weighting if they were “high-cost programs” which required the following:

- Special facilities.
- Special equipment.
- A lower pupil/teacher ratio.
- Teacher training and retraining to keep abreast of the specialized subject area.

Support for weighted CTE funding

Data shows that 97% of high school students take at least one Career and Technical Education (CTE) course, and one in four students take three or more courses in a single program area. One-third of college students are involved in career and technical programs, and as many as 40 million adults engage in short-term postsecondary occupational training.

The funding assists districts in:

- Proving professional development opportunities.
- Purchasing and updating equipment and resources.
- Allowing for smaller class size to meet fire marshal requirements.
- Allowing instructors and programs to become certified, which allows them to provide certification opportunities for students.
- Providing externship opportunities so instructors can update their skills to align with local industry and workforce needs.
- Helping students be more engaged in the learning process in a CTE course, allowing for higher graduation rate and providing graduates that are college and career ready.

Excel in CTE

Passed into legislation effective July 1, 2012.

- Allows for funding of postsecondary credit hours generated by high school students enrolled in a postsecondary-tiered technical course that is part of any approved technical program at an eligible postsecondary institution.
- Allows for incentive payments to high schools that have a student(s) who graduates with an industry-recognized certification/credential earned in an occupational field deemed as high demand in Kansas by the Kansas Department of Labor.
- A list of the qualifying certifications/credentials is published annually by the Kansas Department of Labor, Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).
- Allows for reimbursement of transportation costs incurred by the local district for transporting students to eligible postsecondary institutions to take qualifying tiered technical courses.
Federal Funding Opportunities

Carl D. Perkins

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 was designed to improve and expand services for students enrolled in CTE programs. Courses in these programs are intended to prepare students for further education and careers in current or emerging employment sectors of high-skill, high-wage or high-demand occupations. The courses include competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills and occupation-specific skills of students.

Uses of Funding

Funds available to your school are based upon a formula mandated in the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. There are two categories of fund usage - required and permissible. If the application successfully addresses each of the required activities, you may request, with justification, that permissible funds be used to fund a project.

Perkins legislation identifies nine required activities for which funds are to be used in your district. Each of the activities identified must be addressed by the district to fully support CTE programs and meet the requirements of the grant. Examples of how these activities will be supported are listed in detail within the Perkins application, which must be submitted each year to KSDE.

While local education agencies make decisions as to how allocated funds will be disbursed to support the required uses of funds, consideration should be given to size, scope and quality and the impact each will have on the performance (intended outcomes). Funding focuses on the continued improvement of programs, not the maintenance of current programs.

For more information, contact:

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