



# Perkins IV

## Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, Public Law 109-270 (Perkins IV) was signed into law on August 12, 2006. It authorizes federal funding assistance to secondary and postsecondary career technical education (CTE) programs

**Purpose of Perkins IV:** To develop more fully the academic and career and technical skills of secondary students and postsecondary education students who elect to enroll in career technical education (CTE) programs.

- Aligned with NCLB
- Expanded to include preparation for careers that require a baccalaureate and possibly a masters degree
- Emphasis on (1) high quality programs that prepare individuals for high skill, high wage, and high demand careers; (2) integration of academic and career technical education; (3) on a viable sequence of courses in CTE programs and (4) on monitoring the local use of funds and program accountability

Perkins IV required every state and LEA receiving funding to have a Five-Year CTE Plan. The *2008-2012 California State Plan for Career Technical Education* (State Plan) was approved by the State Board of Education in March 2008. LEA must demonstrate that it conducts one or more CTE programs and that each program assisted with Perkins IV funds complies with the requirements in Perkins IV Section 135(b) and Chapter Five of the State Plan.

**California's CTE priorities** specified in the State Plan:

- CTE is woven into the fabric of education, NOT a separate system of education
- Programs are built on a demand-driven system that responds to real workforce needs, and state, regional, and local labor market realities
- All students have access to CTE courses, pathways and programs of interest.
- Learning spans from early childhood through adulthood with many transitions; career awareness, exploration, and development occur throughout life
- CTE is can engage students and improve student outcomes focusing on rigor, relevance, relationships, and results
- CTE contributes to California's economic future

**How can Perkins funds be used?** Funds may only be used to support activities that:

- modify or update existing programs--**IMPROVE**
- **ENHANCE** the effectiveness of existing programs, and
- develop and implement new programs--**EXPAND**

Perkins IV funds must **supplement and not supplant** state or local funds. Federal funds may not result in a decrease of state or local funding that would have been available to conduct the activity had federal funds not been received. LEAs must be able to demonstrate that federal funds are added to the amount of state and local funds that would be made available for uses specified in the local plan.

Perkins recipients must have these elements in place or spend funds to improve programs in these areas:

1. Strengthen academic and CTE skills through integration of academics & CTE
  2. Link CTE at the secondary-postsecondary levels
  3. All aspects of the industry
  4. Develop, improve, or expand the use of technology in CTE
  5. Provide professional development programs
  6. Develop and implement evaluations of CTE programs
  7. Initiate, improve, expand, and modernize CTE programs
  8. Provide activities of sufficient size and scope to be effective
  9. Provide activities to prepare special populations for high skill, high wage, or high demand occupations that lead to self-sufficiency
- No less than 85 percent of the LEA's allocation must be spent to directly improve or expand CTE programs and courses approved in the local plan and annual application.
  - Up to 10 percent may be expended to provide other activities that support CTE and may not occurring directly in the classroom
  - Up to 5 percent may be charged to direct or indirect costs for expenditures incurred in activities required to administer the grant.
  - Middle school (grades 7 and 8) CTE courses may be assisted with Perkins (secondary) funds only if integral to approved sequences of courses conducted by a high school.

#### **Requirements of CTE Programs Assisted with Perkins funds**

- Be staffed by qualified CTE teachers
  - Credential authorizing the teaching of the CTE course and;
  - Can document employment experience, outside of education, in the career pathway addressed by the program or other evidence of equivalent proficiency
- Focus on current or emerging high skill, high wage or high demand occupations
- Be aligned with State's model CTE standards and framework
- Have extensive industry involvement, as evidenced by no less than one annual business and industry advisory committee meeting and involvement in other program activities
- Provide for certification of students who achieve industry-recognized skill and knowledge requirements
- Be aligned with applicable feeder and advanced-level instruction in pathway
- Integrate the development of CTE and academic skills in order to prepare students for immediate employment or further education
- Provide practical applications and experiences through actual or simulated work-based experiences
- Provide equitable access and needed support services for all students
- Include planned career awareness and exploration experiences
- Provide for development of student leadership skills
- Use annual evaluation results to determine needed program improvements modifications, and professional development for staff
- Systematic plan for promoting the program to all stakeholder groups

**For more information go the Perkins webpage at [www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/pk/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/pk/)**