

Request for Proposals: Pushing The Limits Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Advance CTE has launched this effort to provide a cohort of four-five states with 10 months of intensive technical assistance to advance the principle(s) and actions within *CTE Without Limits* most critical to strengthening their career preparation ecosystems and providing each learner with the greatest opportunities to reach their full potential.

1. What are the benefits of applying for this grant for my state?

Your state will have access to customized coaching support and peer networking. Additionally, you will receive funding of up to \$25,000 to support your planning and execution of the action plan for the *CTE Without Limits* vision.

2. Where can I access the RFP and application?

Please visit <https://careertech.org/request-proposals-pushing-limits> to access the RFP and application instructions.

3. What is the deadline to submit the proposal?

All proposals must be submitted to Kate Kreamer at kkreamer@careertech.org by Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 5:00 pm ET.

4. Who is eligible to apply for this grant?

Any state agency can apply on behalf of a cross-sector state team, but the application must be approved and signed by the State CTE Director.

5. Could this grant be led by partner organizations, such as a state ACTE chapter or chamber of commerce?

The fiscal agent for the grant needs to be the state agency that is the recipient of Perkins funds. However, the state can sub-grant the funds to an alternate entity to assist with leading the implementation of the planning grant. In addition, the state agency serving as the fiscal agent does not need to be the Perkins eligible agency as long as the State Director signs off on the application.

6. Can the main point person identified in the application be in another agency or organization outside of the eligible agency?

Yes, as long as a state agency is the official applicant and fiscal agent for the grant, they can choose to designate someone within a partner organization to serve as the project lead.

7. Can a state apply and choose not to accept the grant funds, but still participate and receive the technical assistance and support?

Yes, a state can apply and be selected for funding and opt out of receiving the grant funds.

8. Can I receive additional support to help develop my application?

Yes, the next Office Hours session will be held on Wednesday, November 3 at 3-4 pm ET. We will provide an overview of the application and you can ask any questions pertaining to the application and selection process. Additionally, if a state would like to have a call with Advance CTE as they are developing their application, they should reach out to Nithya Govindasamy (ngovindasamy@careertech.org) and we would be happy to talk it through.

9. Can ideas that are not fully formulated be included in the application?

Yes, you may submit concepts that are in development and explain how the planning grant will support the development of the concept and assist with planning for implementation.

10. What will make my application a “high-quality” submission?

A high-quality application or proposal will need to demonstrate the following regardless of the focus area/topic:

- equity as through line
- a focus on collaboration
- how the funds will push your state towards rapid implementation
- a clear cross-sector commitment to move elements of the vision forward

11. What is the expected staff time commitment that is required from the state agency/applicant for successful participation in this grant?

We know capacity is a challenge! The initiative is designed to provide ongoing support to all selected states. All state grantees will participate in monthly coaching calls, bi-monthly peer learning activities, and ongoing support that will be tailored to the specific needs identified by the grantee. The customized support and technical assistance for each grantee will be designed with consideration of grantee staff capacity and availability.