

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act Reauthorization Recommendations

Title II – CTE Innovation Fund

In addition to the foundational support for CTE provided through Title I of the Perkins Act, federal resources for CTE should serve as a driver of innovative programs and practices. These funds should be over and above current funding levels, must focus on new ideas that cannot be implemented solely with the resources provided through the Basic State Grant program, and be offered on a short-term basis to launch, but not sustain, programs. Scalability and replicability should be key considerations, with provisions included for the sharing of successful practices. To that end, ACTE and NASDCTE propose a new CTE Innovation Fund to replace the currently unfunded Title II of the Perkins Act.

Our recommendations for a CTE Innovation Fund include:

- Funding the identification, development, evaluation, and expansion of new and innovative, research- and evidence-based CTE practices, programs, and strategies;
- Supporting partnerships of school districts, area CTE schools, institutions of higher education, postsecondary vocational institutions, and business or industry representatives, as well as other stakeholders;
- Increasing CTE student achievement, while reducing gaps in program participation and student achievement;
- Supporting state efforts to convene local entities within communities of practice, build capacity, offer technical assistance, and provide for the evaluation and dissemination of best practices;
- Improving the effectiveness of CTE teachers, leaders and counselors in meeting the future needs of both students and employers;
- Increasing the prevalence and availability of specific elements leading to high-quality implementation of CTE programs of study; and
- Increasing CTE student achievement, while reducing gaps in program participation and student achievement.