California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee

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# California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee April 26, 2024 Agenda Item 01

Posted by the California Department of Education – April 2024

## Subject

The *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act:* Review and Approval of the Draft Updated Federal Perkins V State Plan.

## Type of Action

Action, Information

## Recommendation

The California Department of Education (CDE) recommends that the State Board of Education (SBE) approve the Draft Updated Federal Perkins V State Plan and send the Plan to the Governor’s Office for approval.

## Summary of the Issue(s)

On July 31, 2018, the Federal *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* (Perkins V) was signed into law by President Trump, which reauthorized the Federal *Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education* Act *of 2006* (Perkins IV). As part of the transition to Perkins V, California elected to develop and submit a one-year Transition Plan in May 2019, which the SBE approved at its May 8, 2019, meeting. On July 2, 2019, the CDE received notification from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) that the Transition Plan had been approved, and Perkins V funding for California was available beginning July 1, 2019. At the March 11, 2020 SBE meeting, the SBE approved a new Federal Perkins V State Plan covering the years 2020–24.

In April 2023, the ED conducted a monitoring review visit for the Perkins V State Plan 2020–24. The purpose of this visit was to determine the degree of compliance in meeting the Perkins V and related federal regulation requirements. During the review, ED identified eight compliance findings. While seven of the findings will be addressed through follow-up corrective actions by the CDE, one of the findings was related to a definition in the accountability requirements which requires an update to the Perkins V State Plan, which will cover the years 2024–27. Specifically, ED found that the definition of a “CTE Concentrator” in the Perkins V State Plan does not align with the federal statutory definition. The CDE's secondary CTE Concentrator definition was a minimum of 300- hours in CTE courses, which could require a student to complete three or four courses before they are counted in the CTE data. The CDE has updated the Perkins V State Plan by removing the 300-hour coursework requirement and aligning the CTE Concentrator definition with the federal statutory definition of the completion of at least two courses. The CDE also made non-substantive edits in the plan update that do not impact the administration of the funding.

Federal law requires the Governor to approve the updated Perkins V State Plan for 2024–27, prior to submission to ED, and no later than May 10, 2024. The CDE requested and received written approval for an extension to submit the updated Perkins V State Plan to ED no later than June 20, 2024.

## Brief History of Key Issues

### Plan Updates and Public Comment

During the development of the plan update, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and SBE staff were asked to provide suggestions for edits to the 2020-24 version of the Perkins V State Plan. The CDE incorporated the resulting edits, which were non-substantive in nature and do not impact the administration of the Perkins V funding, into the draft 2024-27 Plan. The 300-hour CTE Concentrator requirement removal was shared at the February 9, 2024, California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee (CWPJAC) meeting as an agenda item. Following the CWPJAC meeting, the CDE posted the 2020-24 version of the Perkins V State Plan for a 30-day public comment period.

The CDE used the [Path2work@cde.ca.gov](mailto:Path2work@cde.ca.gov) email and developed a website which served as the portal for public comment, open from March 7, 2024, through April 7, 2024. After the public comment period closed, CDE staff organized the public comments by the prompts.

The Federal Perkins V State Plan is laid out as responses to a series of prompts. The Plan responds to prompts in the following strands:

* Plan Development and Consultation
* Program Administration and Implementation
* Meeting the Needs of Special Populations
* Preparing Teachers and Faculty
* Fiscal Responsibility
* Accountability for Results

After staff of the CDE reviewed the 11 public comments that were received, CDE incorporated them into the draft 2024–27 Plan where appropriate.

## Attachment(s)

* Attachment 1: Draft Federal Perkins V State Plan. (157 pages)