**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 9, 2021

**TO:** MEMBERS, California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Career and College Transition Division, California Department of Education

**SUBJECT:** Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act Update

## Summary of Key Issues

The California Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) state application was approved by the State Board of Education on March 11, 2020, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors on May 18, 2020, and approved by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) on August 3, 2020. This memorandum provides an update on the Perkins V application and implementation process for kindergarten through grade twelve (K–12) local educational agencies (LEAs).

## 2020–21 Perkins V Update

Two documents were released to the field in February 2020: The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020–21 Perkins application for K–12 LEAs and the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA). The California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee subsequently reviewed both documents and provided recommendations, which were incorporated; revised documents were re-sent to the field in May 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ED extended the application period for both the Perkins application and the CLNA to December 31, 2020.

From May to December 2020, the California Department of Education (CDE) approved 354 applications that were submitted and complete based on the revised application and CLNA. Approximately two thirds of grantees took advantage of the CDE’s offer to extend applications with a due date of December 31, 2020, to provide LEAs more time in completing the CLNA, as part of their Local Application Plan, as well as in response to the COVID–19 pandemic. Most LEAs that used this flexibility completed their applications during the first quarter of 2020–21, but approximately 10 percent of them completed their applications as late as the end of the second quarter.

Of the 354 CDE grantees, 334 recipients are single LEAs and 20 are consortia. The 20 consortia consist of 71 LEAs, bringing the total number of LEAs participating in Perkins V to 405 for the 2020–21 FY. Allocations for 357 Section 131 (secondary) LEAs are based 70 percent on their economically disadvantaged students, and 30 percent based on their total enrollment. Section 131 LEAs that do not meet the minimum allocation, and are considered rural or are a charter school, may apply for a waiver. Sixty Section 131 (secondary) LEAs have received such Perkins waivers. Allocations for the 15 Section 132 grantees are based solely on their economically disadvantaged enrollment in career technical education (CTE) programs.

Following approval of the applications, Grant Award Notifications (GANs) were sent on a weekly basis as applications were approved from July through December 2020.

Twenty-three LEAs who applied for Perkins funding in the previous year, opted out and/or did not submit a Perkins application for the 2020–21 FY. LEAs gave the following reasons for not participating in Perkins for 2020–21:

* Rural LEAs or charter schools reported their allocation was too small,
* Rural LEAs could not keep a CTE-credentialed teacher, and
* LEAs opted to take a break from the grant to focus on the challenges presented by COVID–19 and intended to return at a later date.

## Reporting

### Fiscal Reporting

Secondary and Postsecondary Perkins grantees who receive funding from the CDE report quarterly expenditures through the CDE’s Program Grant Management System, while Community College grantees report quarterly through the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office’s (CCCCO’s) reporting system. CDE staff review and approve CDE grantee quarterly claims for allowable and non-allowable expenditures. Upon approval of the claim, LEAs are then reimbursed through the CDE’s payment process.

### Program Reporting

CDE grantees report program level information through 1) the End of Year Submission in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) in August annually, and 2) the annual CTE Completer Data Survey, which is also reported into CALPADS in March. This data is then reported to OCTAE in January of each year as part of California’s Consolidated Annual Report to the federal government. The first report is due in January 2022. More information about Perkins can be found on the CDE Perkins web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/pk/>.

## 2021–22 Perkins V

It is anticipated that 354 current Perkins grantees and approximately half of the 23 LEAs that did not apply in FY 2020–21 will apply for FY 2021–22 funding. For FY 2021–22, the CDE actively promoted Perkins funding via an email that was sent to LEAs encouraging them to apply. There are approximately 45 new LEAs that have submitted their Intent to Apply Form and are being assessed for eligibility. Criteria for eligibility includes meeting all of the requirements of a high-quality CTE program utilizing an LEA’s own funds as outlined in the California Federal Application for Perkins. The Perkins application for FY 2021–22 is expected to open in early March 2021 and applications will be due in May 2021.

There have been no revisions made to the CDE FY 2021–22 Perkins application and the CLNA, as year to year changes to the application are burdensome to LEAs and Perkins V does not require it.

CDE staff will review and approve FY 2021–22 applications by June 30, 2021, and GANs will be sent to LEAs beginning on July 1, 2021.

## Background

Formerly known as the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, Sec. 2. (20 U.S.C. 2301), Perkins V states that the purpose of the act is to develop more fully the academic knowledge and technical and employability skills of secondary education students and postsecondary education students who elect to enroll in CTE programs and programs of study.

The CDE serves as the fiscal agent for these federal funds, which are shared with the California Community Colleges and distributed to LEAs and local community colleges each year through an application and allocation process. As part of the California Perkins V state application, the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee approved the CLNA and local application for secondary schools on May 8, 2020. During the past year, the CDE has worked to update the application process for K–12 LEAs to include the new CLNA, a requirement of Perkins V. The CDE has also worked with LEAs to complete this new requirement by providing technical assistance, webinars, and one on one support. In addition, the application deadline was extended from May 1, 2020, to December 30, 2020, for FY 2020–21 applications to assist LEAs in meeting the new CLNA requirement, as well as to provide flexibility to LEAs during COVID and to incorporate revisions in the LEA Plan and CLNA made by the CWPJAC for secondary schools only. This memorandum is being provided as an update to this continued work.

## Attachment(s)

None