  

# California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee September 2019 Agenda Item 03

Posted by the California Department of Education

## Subject

The California Perkins Joint Special Populations Advisory Committee (JSPAC) empowers educators with equity and access to resources that address barriers for career technical education (CTE) students from special populations and students seeking training in non-traditional by gender career fields.

## Type of Action

Information

## Summary of the Issue(s)

This is an informational presentation on the use of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) special populations requirement set aside through the JSPAC. In past meetings the members of the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee requested information related to JSPAC. Additionally, participants at the Perkins V Stakeholder meeting partook in discussion groups on special populations.

## Recommendation

None

## Brief History of Key Issues

The JSPAC mission is to improve equity and access with an equity lens for special populations, non-traditional, and underrepresented students. The JSPAC equity lens takes into consideration the varying personal experiences and social identifiers that impact students’ educational opportunities, including race, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and family background. For 30 years, there has been supporting Kindergarten through Grades Fourteen (K–14) CTE practitioners in the field to promote equity and opportunities in career education. Primary methods for support have included providing data and research on equity for teachers, counselors, and administrators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their programs; in addition to offering training and technical assistance. The Perkins IV mandates that states serve special populations.

Current equity initiatives are providing some level of professional training to practitioners but are not centered on equity for underrepresented, non-traditional, special population, and underserved students. With the Perkins IV reauthorization, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), the JSPAC is positioned to be the equity professional development/data and research technical assistance provider in California. The JSPAC professional training is intended to reduce the inequities for students but empowering the practitioner of having a deeper understanding to self-reflect, continuously view students through an asset lens rather than a deficit.

The JSPAC has focused on research and data to examine performance, identify barriers, and offering best practices. The JSPAC also connects with the National Alliance for Partnership in Equity (NAPE) with the entire state of California. The JSPAC has supported the 25-person advisory group who advises the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the California Department of Education on equity in career education. The JSPAC also hosts an annual conference with more than 200 participants from K–14 and adult school practitioners. The JSPAC also provides webinars, training, and technical assistance. The annual budget for the project is $150,000 annually from the Perkins Special Populations required set aside. The program is administered by Grossmont College.

## Summary of Previous California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee Discussion(s) and Action(s)

None.

## Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate)

Not Applicable

## Attachment(s)

**Attachment 1:** JSPAC White Paper

**Attachment 2:** NAPE: Special Populations on Perkins V

**Attachment 3:** Stakeholders: Special Populations Discussion from the August 13, 2019 meeting

**Slides 1:** Joint Special Populations Advisory Committee