October 22, 2020

Dear Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Coordinator:

After much review and discussion, the California Department of Education (CDE) and the State Board of Education (SBE) have decided to postpone the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG) allocation item, originally scheduled for the November 4–5, 2020, SBE agenda. The SBE review and approval of the CTEIG grantees and the corresponding allocated amounts will be taken up at the January 13–14, 2021, SBE meeting.

Please keep in mind that being a potential CTEIG recipient does not in any way constitute final inclusion as a grantee and should be regarded as preliminary. Inclusion in a final set becomes possible once the SBE approves the grantee list and corresponding grant amount at the January 13–14, 2021, SBE meeting.

The CTEIG application review process and the determination of grantee allocations is complex and time consuming, with many moving parts. The various steps include: updating the 2020–21 application, providing local educational agencies time for submission, the review process, the appeal process for any denials, and running the CTEIG allocation process. The timeline CDE was operating under was less than a month, with multiple steps required when moving from application submission to posting (10 days prior) for the November 2020 SBE meeting. Additionally, within each step, review and reconciliation needed to be conducted thoroughly before the complete CTEIG agenda item and associated attachments could be posted to the SBE website.

The CDE staff made every attempt to painstakingly follow these different interconnected and complex steps, and staff have a high degree of confidence in producing the allocations. However, given recent history, both the SBE and the CDE wanted to ensure that there was no margin for error when it came to determining the CTEIG allocations. This is all the more important when there needs to be an abundance of caution during a time when budgets and funding are tight. Hence, the decision to remove the CTEIG item from the November 2020 SBE meeting.

To that effect, the extra time will redouble CDE's efforts to ensuring that all requirements, as per statute and policy, are taken into full consideration, and making sure that CDE has the most accurate set of grantees and associated CTEIG allocations ready for the January 2021 SBE meeting.
If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Michelle McIntosh, Education Administrator I, Career Technical Education Leadership Office, by email at MMcIntosh@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Pradeep Kotamraju, Ph.D., Division Director
Career and College Transition Division

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