  

# California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee February 2024 Agenda Item 05

Posted by: the California Department of Education (CDE)

## Subject

The *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act:* Review and Approval of the Draft Federal Perkins V State Plan. New Baseline and removal of 300 hour pathway completion requirement.

## Type of Action

Action, Information

## Summary of the Issue(s)

In April 2023, the US Department of Education conducted an in-person visit to review the federal *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* (Perkins V). One of the findings that the visiting team identified was the 300-hour pathway completion requirement that was in the California plan. In the visiting team’s follow up document with the finds, they requested that CDE provide a remedy to the 300-hour pathway completion requirement. CDE staff drafted a reply to the US Department of Education that the remedy would be to remove the 300-hour pathway completion requirement.

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. The State Board of Education (SBE) approved the 2019–20 California Perkins V Transition Plan at its May 8, 2019, meeting, and the Board of Governors (BOG) of the California Community Colleges (CCC) received an update at its May 21, 2019, meeting. The CDE submitted the approved transition plan to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) on May 24, 2019. On July 2, 2019, the CDE received notification from the ED that the 2019–20 Perkins V Transition Plan had been approved, and Perkins V funding for California was available starting July 1, 2019. After submission of the transition plan, work began on developing the complete four-year Perkins V State Plan for Career Technical Education (CTE), which was due to ED no later than April 15, 2020. The Federal Perkins V State Plan for 2020–24 was approved by ED in August 2020.

Following the July 2018 enactment of Perkins V, California submitted a one-year transition plan covering FY 2019 (July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020) and then a four-year State plan covering FY 2020-23 (July 1, 2020–June 30, 2024). For California to receive its FY 2024 Perkins grant award, we are required to submit one of the following pursuant to section 122(a)(5) of Perkins V:

* *Option 1*: A subsequent (new) four-year State plan covering FY 2024-27 (July 1, 2024–June 30, 2028), including a budget for FY 2024 and State determined performance levels (SDPLs) through FY 2027; or
* *Option 2*: Annual revisions to establish your SDPLs for FY 2024 and a budget for FY 2024.

Due to the change in 300 hour requirement, which is considered a substantial change to the State Plan, the CDE is required to follow through with Option 1. Option 1 will require a public comment period, stakeholder engagement, approval by the presentation to the State Board of Education, Board of Governors, and the Governor’s Office.

The change to the definition of a CTE Concentrator is as follows:

*A CTE student who completes at least* ***two sequential courses*** *in an industry pathway, and the sequence includes the capstone course; and the CTE student receives a grade of C- or better in the capstone course.*

This agenda item provides an overview of the proposed Draft Federal Perkins V State Plan changes, which in final form will serve as the application to the ED to fulfil the requirements for California receiving Perkins V funds.

## Recommendation

Adopt the updated language in the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act:* Review and Adoption of the Draft Federal Perkins V State Plan.

## Brief History of Key Issues

In 2020, the SBE approved the *2020–2024 California State Plan for Career Technical Education.* The comprehensive plan, which the CDE and the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) created collaboratively, was developed to only meet the federal Perkins V requirements, but also to establish a vision and direction for CTE across California.

In 2008, the SBE approved the *2008–2012 California State Plan for Career Technical Education*. This comprehensive plan, which the CDE and the CCCCO created collaboratively, was developed to not only meet the federal Perkins IV requirements, but also to establish a vision and direction for CTE across California.

Staff from the CDE and the CCCCO have been working closely with staff from the SBE since spring 2017 to reconvene the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee (CWPJAC), as required by California *Education Code* Section 12503, in preparation for developing a California State Plan for CTE.

On July 31, 2018, the federal Perkins V was signed into law which reauthorized the federal Perkins IV. As part of the transition to Perkins V, California elected to submit a one-year transition plan in May 2019, with the full State Plan due in April 2020. In April 2019, the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) released the final guidance for the Perkins V, which can be found at the following web link, <https://s3.amazonaws.com/PCRN/docs/1830-0029-Perkins_V_State_Plan_Guide-Expires_4-30-22.pdf>.

The Transition Plan was approved by the SBE at its May 8, 2019, meeting, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges received an update at its   
May 21, 2019, meeting. The CDE submitted the approved Transition Plan to the ED on May 24, 2019. On July 2, 2019, the CDE received notification from the ED that the 2019–20 Transition Plan was approved and federal Perkins V funding for California was made available starting July 1, 2019 at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/gi/workpathjac.asp>.

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

**November 25, 2019:** Incorporating Input fromthe CWPJAC members at their November 7, 2019, meeting, a revised Draft State Plan was presented to the CWPJAC. Using a facilitated discussion process, members provided further input, but recommended that further review occur after the public comment period. The CWPJAC approved a Draft Federal State Plan at its meeting on November 25, 2019, and moved the draft forward for public comment.

**November 7, 2019:** Following the October 2019 meeting a decision was made to first complete the Draft State Plan. The SBE, CDE, and CCCCO staff began putting together the Draft Federal State Plan. The version of the Draft Federal State Plan included material from the October 2019 version (known as the California State Plan for CTE) by drawing relevant content and placing it under the four stands, the major prompts, the minor prompts and the items that were listed in the Perkins State Plan Guide (see link above). The Draft Federal State Plan was presented to the CWPJAC members on November 7, 2019. After review and input, the members asked staff to continue working on the Draft Federal State Plan and present to the CWPJAC members an updated version at the November 25, 2019, meeting.

**October 2019:** A Draft Federal State Plan for CTE and a proposed timeline were provided to the CWPJAC members. A chapter-by-chapter review of the Draft Federal State Plan for CTE was presented, discussed, and input on each chapter was solicited. It was decided that the CWPJAC staff should work on the Perkins V federal application and present it to the CWPJAC members at the November meeting. A proposed draft timeline was presented. Completed and upcoming meetings with regard to the Perkins V federal application were discussed.

**September 2019:** A Draft Federal State Plan for CTE and a proposed draft timeline were provided to the CWPJAC members.

**July 2019:** The CWPJAC staff introduced an updated draft timeline and planned activities for completing a new California State Plan for CTE.

**May 2019:** The CWPJAC staff introduced a draft timeline and planned activities for completing a new California State Plan for CTE.

**March 2019:** The CDE and CCCCO staff presented the draft Transition Plan to the CWPJAC. The CWPJAC members provided feedback for staff to consider while continuing to work on the transition plan.

**February 2019:** The CDE and CCCCO staff presented responses to the Programs of Study, Special Populations, and Fiscal Responsibility sections of the Transition Plan to the CWPJAC. The CWPJAC members provided extensive feedback for staff to consider while continuing to work on the Transition Plan.

**January 2019:** The CDE and CCCCO staff presented the current requirements for the state’s 2019–20 Transition Plan for the new Perkins V legislation.

**December 2018:** The CDE and CCCCO staff presented a draft timeline to the CWPJAC that outlined when items need to be completed in order to meet the deadline for submission of the State’s 2019–20 Transition Plan to the ED.

**November 2018:** The CDE staff provided a brief update on the activities around the new Perkins V legislation.

**September 2018:** Michael Brustein, Brustein & Manasevit, PLLC, Attorneys at Law, provided an overview of the new Perkins V legislation, known as the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act.

**March 2008:** On March 12, 2008, the SBE unanimously approved the 2008–2012 California State Plan for CTE, as required by the Perkins IV, which had been previously approved by the BOG on March 3, 2008. The 2008–2012 California State Plan for CTE was subsequently approved by the ED on July 1, 2008.

**January 2008:** The SBE held a public hearing on the 2008–2012 California State Plan for CTE, as was required by the Perkins IV.

## Fiscal Analysis (as allocated)

In 2023–24 the Perkins V allocation was $141,892,526.

## Attachment(s)

None