



## Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

Congress approved legislation to update and reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) Act for the first time since 2006 in legislation titled *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act*. The Act will maintain the formula for allocating Perkins Act funding among states and also preserves the system for distributing funding within states.

85 percent of the total funding under this act will be used for local Perkins Act funding, allocated by states between secondary and postsecondary programs. Under this reauthorization, local funding recipients must submit applications to the state that are based on a comprehensive CTE needs assessment. The new law will become effective July 1, 2019.

Specific provisions of the legislation include:

- Reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education programs through Fiscal Year 2024
  - Maintenance of the formula grant structure to states with the following funding authorizations (Authorizations may not always reflect the actual appropriated funding allocations each fiscal year)
    - Fiscal Year 2019 - \$1,229,568,538
    - Fiscal Year 2020 - \$1,246,782,498
    - Fiscal Year 2021 - \$1,264,237,452
    - Fiscal Year 2022 - \$1,281,936,777
    - Fiscal Year 2023 - \$1,299,883,892
    - Fiscal Year 2024 - \$1,318,082,266
- Alignment with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for greater state and local flexibility to establish "high quality" programs and standards that are to also be commensurate with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act for coordinated programming and reporting
- Reporting of disaggregated data for student subgroups to help inform programmatic improvements
- Allowing states the option to reset their baseline funding levels one time to comply with maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements so that MOE would be at least 95 percent of a state's fiscal effort per student, **or**, 95 percent of a state's aggregate CTE expenditures
- Requiring local applications for sub grants to address multiple areas including:
  - Plans to acclimate students to CTE/career exploration in earlier "middle grades"
  - Effective academic and career counseling services
  - Targeted services for at-risk students
  - Career readiness for students pursuing employment opportunities in non-traditional fields
- Limiting administrative costs to no more than five percent

- Requiring local grant recipients to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment with stakeholders which includes:
  - An evaluation of the performance of the students served disaggregated by subgroup
  - Establishment of an online portal for CTE students, including special populations, preparing for postsecondary career and technical education
  - A description of how the grantees will improve recruitment, retention and training of CTE teachers, faculty and staff
  - A description of progress toward implementation of equal access to high-quality CTE courses and programs of study for all students