



CTE
IN
STEM

INVEST IN CTE!

RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT

FUNDING FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) is a critical investment that is working to prepare students and adults for jobs in today's economy! Through federal support of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins), CTE programs continue to evolve and expand to meet the needs of students who want the knowledge and skills that are essential for success in high-wage, high-skill and high-demand careers.

CTE works to ensure that students have the academic, technical and employability skills that are needed for expanding fields like engineering, information technology, advanced manufacturing and health care. CTE provides students with transferable skills that ensure they are ready for college and a career. It also affords continued training opportunities to many adult workers who need to adapt their skills for a rapidly changing job market. CTE programs funded through Perkins are working with business and industry partners to help fill positions that are available today, while preparing a qualified workforce for the jobs of tomorrow.

In this fiscal environment, CTE provides a strong return on investment. Students involved in CTE programs are more engaged, perform better academically and graduate at higher rates. An educated and highly-skilled workforce provides direct benefits to American employers, strengthening the economy through productivity and innovation.

MAKE PERKINS A PRIORITY!

Perkins is the principal source of funding for CTE program improvement and is one of the only federal programs that build the capacity of secondary and postsecondary institutions to offer CTE programs that are academically rigorous and aligned to the needs of business and industry.

The Administration's budget request includes several proposals that will increase access to community colleges, promote STEM initiatives and encourage high school redesign efforts with a greater emphasis on career preparation; however a greater investment in Perkins is needed. The Perkins FY 2011 allocation was reduced by \$140 million, with additional reductions occurring in FY 2012. As a result of sequestration, Perkins will be further reduced by \$58 million in FY 2013. Dozens of states are currently receiving funding allocations at or below the level they received in 1998. The erosion of Perkins has hurt high schools, CTE centers, community and technical colleges, employers and millions of CTE students nationwide. We request that Congress restore funding for Perkins Basic State Grant to \$1.1 billion, equivalent to the FY 2012 level, and make investing in CTE a top priority!

Make educating and training the nation's future workforce a priority and restore funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act!

WHY CTE?

CTE students:

- are more engaged in their education
- graduate from high school at higher rates
- score higher on academic achievement tests
- gain critical employability skills
- focus on high-wage, high-skill and high-demand careers
- are the backbone of the future U.S. workforce!