



Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) is the largest source of federal funding for Career Technical Education (CTE).

Why Business and Industry Support CTE

- CTE programs in secondary and postsecondary institutions are developing **America's most valuable re-source—its people**; helping them gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience they need to prepare for high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers.
- CTE is developing a **skilled, sustainable workforce** for American business and industry.
- Baby boomers will be retiring at the rate of thousands per day over the next two decades.
- Experts predict **47 million job openings** in the decade ending 2018. About two-thirds will require an associate's degree or certificate, and nearly all will require real-world skills that can be mastered through CTE.
- Secondary, postsecondary and adult CTE programs are developing the skilled workforce companies need to increase **productivity and competitiveness**.
- A workforce educated through CTE represents a complete range of career areas across the entire economy—and is **driven by the needs and demands of employers**.
- Well-trained and highly-skilled workers will be best positioned to secure high-wage jobs over the next decade.

Cuts to Perkins and CTE: A Problem for Business & Industry

- Perkins was flat-funded from 2002 through 2011, and as a result, the program **lost 21 percent of its buying power** over that period due to inflation.
- Perkins was cut by \$140.2 million (11 percent) in the FY 2011 budget, bringing total appropriations for CTE down to \$1.1 billion.
- President Barack Obama's FY 2012 budget proposed to increase overall Department of Education funding by \$2 billion, yet there were **significant cuts to Perkins** that would decrease total FY 2012 appropriations to \$1 billion.
- Cuts to Perkins-funded CTE programs will reduce the number of educated, skilled workers entering the workforce at a time when the nation needs to create jobs and rebuild its economy.
- Without critical Perkins funding, CTE programs will not be able to feed the productivity of local employers, **reducing Business and Industry profitability and limiting expansion** of the community base of corporate and payroll tax revenues.