

Up-to-Date with DATE

Important News and Information from OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE)

April 2008

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Message from the Director

Hot off the press! The following eight States exceeded their performance levels under Perkins III, Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), and Title II of WIA (Adult Education and Family Literacy Act), and qualify for an incentive grant under section 503 of WIA.

Arizona
Connecticut
Illinois
Missouri
Montana
Ohio
South Carolina
South Dakota

The link to the [Federal Register Notice](http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-8861.htm) for these States to apply for their incentive grants is <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-8861.htm>. The application deadline is June 9, 2008.

Congratulations to each of these States!

Sharon Lee Miller
Director, DATE

Financial Management Workshop Scheduled for September

DATE is changing the location (and perhaps the date) for its September 2008 Financial Management Workshop (FMW) to Washington, DC. This change was made to reduce the time and costs associated with travel to Mystic, CT, where the session was tentatively planned to be held in connection with the Fall Meeting of the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc). Further details will follow.

Meanwhile, DATE is seeking State financial management staff to assist in developing the final FMW agenda. Please submit names and contact information, including phone number and e-mail address, to Nancy Essey at nancy.essey@ed.gov.

Discretionary Grant Project Directors Meeting Scheduled for June

DATE will host a meeting for Perkins discretionary grant project directors and staff on June 16-18, 2008, at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia. Discretionary grants are the Native American Career and Technical Education Program (NACTEP), the Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP), the Tech Prep Demonstration Program (TPDP), and the Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Institutions Program (TCPCTIP).

Among the topics for the meeting: (1) grantee/grantor relationships (communication, monitoring, Perkins IV, EDGAR, expanded authorities, restricted indirect costs, etc.); 2) grant management

requirements; 3) reporting requirements and program evaluation expectations; 4) an overview of the Perkins IV core indicators of performance. The meeting also will provide opportunities to

share information specific to each program and expertise across projects, and offer focus group sessions to address areas of concern and interest.

For further information, contact Linda Mayo at Linda.mayo@ed.gov.

State Scholars Initiative (SSI) Summit Scheduled for April

The State Scholars Initiative (SSI) will host the *National Summit on Academic Rigor and Relevance* on April 29-30, 2008, in Boston, MA, to examine the role and effectiveness of the business community in driving national education reform conversations and to discuss reform efforts to increase academic rigor and relevance in high school. Thirty-six states/territories have registered teams: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, GU, HI, IA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NH, NM, OK, PR, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VI, WV, and WY. All states were invited to send one six-member team to the summit.

For more information, contact Nancy Brooks at nancy.brooks@ed.gov

State Scholars Initiative (SSI) Evaluation Reports Available

The Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) has released its *Year Two State Scholars Initiative (SSI) Evaluation Report* (NCHEMS, 2008), which focuses on SSI student level outcome data gathered in 47 districts in 10 SSI states: Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming. The report is located at <http://www.wiche.edu/statescholars/files/EvalRptYear2.pdf>. The appendices to the report can be found at http://www.wiche.edu/statescholars/files/EvalRptYear2_App.pdf.

WICHE also released its *Annual Evaluation Report and Preliminary Findings for SSI Project Goal One* (NIU, 2008), which addresses how the 22 active state-level business-education partnerships involved in SSI are using business-education partnerships to influence high school student course-taking. This report can be found at <http://www.wiche.edu/statescholars/files/08EvalRpt.pdf>.

For more information, please contact Nancy Brooks at nancy.brooks@ed.gov or Terese Rainwater at trainwater@wiche.edu.

Next Steps Workgroup Scheduled Conference Calls for FY 2008

DATE, in collaboration with MPR Associates, Inc., and DTI Associates, Inc., host monthly Next Steps Workgroup (NSWG) conference calls for DATE staff, State staff, representatives of national associations, and other interested individuals to discuss issues pertaining to Perkins accountability systems. Conference calls are typically held on the first Thursday of each month (except in January and July) from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Sub-groups may be formed as necessary to address emerging or pending issues. The following calls are scheduled:

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 1 | Defining High-Skill, High Wage and High Demand Occupations |
| June 5 | Using Crosswalks to Report Data by Career Cluster and Pathway |
| July 10 | Tech Prep Data Systems and Data Reporting |
| August 7 | Issues and Changes in Reporting Special Populations and Racial/Ethnic Categories |
| September 4 | Tentative: New and Improved Placement Surveys |

October 2 Tentative: Sharing Social Security Numbers
 November 6 Topic to be determined
 December 4 Topic to be determined

For further information, contact John Haigh at john.haigh@ed.gov or Don Hilber at dhilber@dtihq.com.

Agricultural Education News

DATE’s agricultural education initiative is working with the Danish Ministry of Education to develop new programs and partnerships under a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and Denmark. DATE staff members Larry Case and Amanda Cloud will spend April 26-30, 2008, on a study tour in Denmark to establish working relationships with colleagues at two-year colleges there. The goal is to begin a faculty/student exchange within the community colleges that offer agricultural education teacher preparation courses. The student tour agenda will include an introduction to Danish vocational education and agricultural education that includes policies, facts, and figures related to the agricultural sector in Denmark plus the challenges and future workforce qualification requirements, international exchange activities in agriculture, and international collaboration in agricultural education.

Other members of the U.S. Agricultural Education Delegation include Jeff Papke, National FFA Collegiate Team Leader and Executive Director of the Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization (PAS); Andrea Siebenmann, Executive Director of Community Colleges International Development, Kirkwood Community College; Shah Rahnema, Professor, Chair Arts & Science and Business, Technologies Division at Ohio State ATI; Rick Parker, Division Director and Instructor at the College of Southern Idaho (CSI) and Director for AgrowKnowledge; and Dr. Larry Devane, President of Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma.

For more information, contact Larry Case at larry.case@ed.gov.

Mark Your Calendar!

(Note: Events listed below are sponsored or funded by OVAE, or are events at which OVAE will present)

| Event Title/Sponsor | Dates/Location | DATE Point of Contact |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| State Scholars Initiative (SSI) Institute – <i>Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE)</i> | April 29-30, 2008 Boston, MA | nancy.brooks@ed.gov |
| 28 th Annual Conference of the National Association for Career and Technical Education Information – <i>NASDCTEC/NACTEI</i> | May 20-23, 2008 Boise, ID | john.haigh@ed.gov |
| 2008 International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Development - <i>National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD)</i> | May 25-28, 2008 Austin, TX | steve.frank@ed.gov |

| Event Title/Sponsor | Dates/Location | DATE Point of Contact |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Discretionary Grant Project Directors Meeting – <i>DATE</i> | June 16-18, 2008 Alexandria, VA | scott.hess@ed.gov |
| 6 th Annual Career Clusters Institute – <i>NASDCTEc</i> | June 16-18, 2008 Atlanta, GA | scott.hess@ed.gov |
| DATE's Financial Management Workshop | Dates TBD Washington, DC | nancy.essey@ed.gov |