

Up-to-Date with DATE

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

June/July 2008

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Message from the Director

This month has been particularly busy as DATE staff wind down their review of the Five-Year Perkins IV State Plans, wrap up negotiations on Perkins IV performance levels for year two, and prepare the July 1, 2008, Perkins IV grant awards. In addition, DATE staff hosted a two and a half day Discretionary Grantee Project Director's Meeting, participated in the National Association for State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc) Career Clusters Institute, and presented at the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education's (NRCCTE) Technical Assistance Academy focusing on non-traditional programs. For all of us here in DATE, June 30 marks the end of the old (program) year and July 1 the beginning of a new (program) year. We celebrate our accomplishments, consider ways to improve our programs and services, and look forward to the upcoming year. You are likely doing the same in your state. On behalf of the entire DATE team...



Sharon Lee Miller
Director, DATE

DATE Staff to Begin Review of State's Local Applications

Each state was notified in its July 1, 2008, Perkins IV grant award letter that our office plans to conduct a more thorough review of each state's local application(s) during the month of July to determine the extent to which they conform to the requirements of section 134(b) of Perkins IV. Each state will receive written notice from this office with the outcome of their review and an opportunity to correct deficiencies, if any, prior to receiving its October 1, 2008, Perkins IV supplemental grant award.

Rigorous Programs of Study (RPOS) Review Underway

DATE staff will begin its review of applications submitted for the *Rigorous Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study through Statewide or Multi-State Articulation Agreements* (RPOS) project. RPOS grants will provide funds to state-level partnerships among the state agencies responsible for career and technical education, secondary education, postsecondary education, state workforce agencies, employers, faculty and administrators from secondary and postsecondary institutions to reach agreement on a state program of study (POS) and develop a statewide

articulation agreement to implement and institute the POS. Articulation agreements ensure strong collaboration and on-going communication between the partners to identify course standards that align with the expectations of postsecondary education and employers allowing for seamless transitions from secondary to postsecondary education, and between postsecondary institutions. RPOS grants will be made to approximately six states for a two-year period, with an average grant award size of \$125,000. The closing date for receipt of applications is July 7, 2008. Applications will be reviewed from July 8 (reviewer orientation) to July 11 (panel deliberations). Grant awards will be made by the end of July.

Sixth Annual Career Cluster Institute Participation

DATE staff members participated in the 6th Annual Career Clusters Institute from June 16-18, 2008, in Atlanta, GA. Scott Hess, Chief, College and Career Transitions Branch and Steve Frank (on loan to OVAE for one year from Texas) presented on two technical assistance projects focusing on career and technical programs of study. The first project, *Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study (RPOS) through Statewide or Multi-State Articulation Agreements*, is summarized above.

The second project will focus on creating models for local implementation of programs of study. This project will be funded in collaboration with the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) and will use the same format as the recently-completed technical assistance academy focusing on nontraditional programs. More specific information on this project will be announced in late summer.

An update was also provided on OVAE's *STEM Transitions: Enhancing Mathematics and Science Rigor through Evidence-Based Curriculum Projects/Strategies* initiative being implemented by the League for Innovation in the Community College (the League) and the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD). In this project, community college faculty and industry representatives are collaborating on the development of 62 high-quality curriculum projects/strategies for use in mathematics, science, and technology courses at the postsecondary level. The projects/strategies will be available for use in late fall. For more information, please visit the project Website at <http://www.stemtransitions.org>

Finally, Ray Davis (another temporary staff member on loan to OVAE from South Carolina) and Gisela Harkin led a session emphasizing the role of the guidance counselor in implementing career and technical programs of study. For further information, contact ray.davis@ed.gov or gisela.harkin@ed.gov

The National Community College Symposium

OVAE was host for the *National Community College Symposium: Improving Student Transitions at Community Colleges* on June 19, 2008, in Washington, DC. The symposium provided a forum for administrators, policymakers, and researchers to discuss research-based practices for improving student transitions to secondary and postsecondary educations. Full video footage and a written summary of the proceedings will be posted on the OVAE Website by July 31, 2008. Updates and other useful links are located at www.sei2003.com/OVAE

Next Steps Workgroup Scheduled Conference Calls for FY 2008

The Next Steps Workgroup (NSWG) conference calls serve as a communication vehicle for OVAE, state career and technical education director and accountability staff, and other interested individuals to discuss issues pertaining to Perkins accountability systems. Conference calls are held on the first Thursday of each month (except in January and July) from 2 pm - 3 pm EST. Sub-groups are formed as necessary to address pending or emerging issues. The following calls are scheduled:

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	To be Determined
December 4	To be Determined

For further information, please contact John Haigh at: john.haigh@ed.gov

Perkins Monitoring Team Schedule

The following monitoring visits have been scheduled through September. Dates are still being confirmed.

- July – South Dakota, full monitoring visit
- September - California, full monitoring visit
- September – North Dakota, Native American CTE Programs (NACTEP). These include: Candeska Cikana Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, and Sitting Bull Community College
- September – North Dakota, Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institute Program (TCPCTIP) grantee and the United Tribes Technical College

For more information on the monitoring visits, contact Edward Smith at: edward.smith@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
Financial Management Workshop – <i>OVAE/DATE</i>	September (dates TBD)	nancy.essey@ed.gov
15 th Annual Data Quality Institute (DQI) – <i>OVAE/DATE</i>	October (dates TBD)	john.haigh@ed.gov
National Tech Prep Network Conference/National Association for Tech Prep Leadership Pre-conference Strand - <i>NTPN</i>	October 23, 2008 Minneapolis, MN	john.haigh@ed.gov or sharon.miller@ed.gov
2008 ACTE Convention and Career Expo – <i>Association for Career and Technical Education</i>	December 4-6, 2008 Charlotte, NC	scott.hess@ed.gov or edward.smith@ed.gov