

Topical Heading

Career and Technical Education

Program Title

Career and Technical Education National Programs

Also Known as

National Activities

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.051

Administering Office

Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE)

Who May Apply (by category)

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Nonprofit Organizations, Other Organizations and/or Agencies

Who May Apply (specifically)

- For National Research for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE; # 84.051A), eligible institutions or consortia of eligible organizations may apply.
- For State Scholars Initiative (SSI; # 84.051U), eligible applicants include national nonprofit organizations or agencies that: (1) have background and expertise in the education field and have been in existence for at least three years; (2) have worked actively with members of the business and education communities in one or more states, or at the national level, in carrying out the nonprofit entity's core activities; and (3) have been providing technical assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs), state educational agencies (SEAs), secondary schools, education institutions, or nonprofit educational organizations or agencies, on curriculum or other education matters.
- For Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study (# 84.051C), states or a consortium of states that propose projects that will build a state's capacity, or the capacity of two or more states in the case of consortia, to create articulation agreements for rigorous Career and Technical Education programs of study. Applicants must establish a partnership that represents the state agencies responsible for the administration of state CTE, secondary education, and postsecondary education (both two- and four-year institutions); state workforce agencies; and employers and faculty and administrators from the state's secondary and postsecondary education institutions that are familiar with elements of the program of study.

Current Competitions

FY 2008 application deadline expected for Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study (# 84.051C) (supported by FY 2007 funds): July 7, 2008. FY 2008 funds support continuations.

Type of Assistance (by category)

Cooperative Agreements, Discretionary/Competitive Grants

Appropriations

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Fiscal Year 2006 | \$9,164,430 |
| Fiscal Year 2007 | \$10,000,000 |
| Fiscal Year 2008 | \$7,860,000 |

Fiscal Year 2008 Awards Information

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 4-6 for # 84.051C

Average New Award: \$1,050,000

Number of Continuation Awards: 5

Legislative Citation

Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 (Perkins Act or Perkins), Sec. 114; 20 U.S.C. 2324

Program Regulations

EDGAR and *Federal Register* program notices, as applicable

Program Description

The *Perkins* National Activities authority supports research, evaluation, information dissemination, technical assistance to states, and other activities aimed at improving the quality and effectiveness of career and technical education. The legislation specifically calls for, among other activities, the operation of a national center for research, dissemination, and technical assistance in career and technical education, and a national assessment of career and technical education programs operated under the *Perkins Act* (see legislative citation). Current major activities by CFDA # include:

- National Center for Research in Career and Technical Education (# 84.051A)—This program supports the establishment of a national center to conduct scientifically based research and evaluation, development, dissemination, technical assistance and training activities in the field of career and technical education.
- State Scholars Initiative (# 84.051U)—This initiative is designed to dramatically increase the percentage of high school students who have the solid academic foundation that is necessary to succeed in postsecondary education and in an increasingly dynamic labor market. SSI supports state-level business-education partnerships that work with school districts to encourage more students to complete a rigorous course of study.
- Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study (#84.051C)—The purpose of this project is to promote rigorous programs of study through the creation of statewide or multistate articulation agreements. Articulation agreements will ensure a common statewide set of program of study standards aligned with postsecondary and employer expectations, and a common assessment instrument documenting student competencies. These agreements will allow secondary students to earn college credit that is accepted throughout a state or consortium of states, and allow community college students to transfer to other state two- or four-year institutions without losing credit for courses already taken.

Types of Projects

Projects include: research, development, demonstration, dissemination, identification of best methods, capacity building, technical assistance, evaluation, and assessment activities.

- The NRCCTE supports scientifically based research and evaluation, information dissemination, technical assistance, and professional development.
- The SSI supports a national nonprofit organization that selects and funds state business-education partnerships that encourage high school students to enroll in rigorous courses. Projects stress the importance of completing a rigorous high school curriculum; develop incentives for students to complete rigorous course work; and work with state-level policymakers, business, and community stakeholders to help encourage students statewide to enroll in demanding courses.
- The Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study supports technical assistance to grantees to develop articulation agreements. The process will be documented and used as a model for other states to support national implementation of rigorous programs of study.

Education Level (by category)

Out-of-School Youth, Postsecondary, Secondary

Subject Index

Academic Achievement, Educational Improvement, Educational Innovation, Postsecondary Education, Research, Technical Assistance, Career and Technical Education

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Links to Related Web Sites

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/index.html> (National Activities Programs)

<http://www.wiche.edu/statescholars> (SSI)

<http://www.nccte.org> (NRCCTE)