



Workforce Development:
Creating A Skilled and Educated Workforce



Career Technical Education In Kansas

February

A Message From Vice President Flanders:

February is Career Technical Education month and we're pleased to announce the inaugural edition of the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) Workforce Development Newsletter. The plan is to release this e-publication on a quarterly basis which will help us communicate with all those interested in developing a skilled workforce for Kansas.

One strong message from business leaders is their need for a workforce with nationally-recognized industry credentials. Recently, Kathy Hund and I participated with our partners from the Department of Commerce and Department of Labor in the Kansas Skills Tour. We connected with Kansas businesses at numerous locations within our state and discussed the value of recognizing industry credentials. Many business leaders signed a pledge to promote a talented, certified workforce. If you are connected to business leaders in your community, please encourage them to sign the [skills pledge](#). Or, if you are a business leader, I encourage you to join others and sign the skills pledge!

Several of the current statewide workforce initiatives highlight nationally-recognized industry credentials. At the recent Kansas Workforce Summit, we continued to hear positive support for Governor Brownback's Secondary/Postsecondary Career Technical Education Initiative. High schools will be rewarded for each student that receives an industry-recognized certificate in a high demand field, and our colleges report growing enrollments of high school students accessing college level technical education courses. We expect additional growth next year.

The Technical Education Authority began the process of requiring industry credentials as a component of postsecondary career technical education programs beginning in 2007. Students can now graduate with not only an academic award, but also a value added industry credential. This work continues as we strive to align all postsecondary career technical education programs with the needs of business and industry.

I hope you find the Newsletter informative. Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Dates To Remember:

**Brustein & Manesevit
Spring Forum –
May 8 – 10**
[http://www.bruman.com/
index.php/spring-forum-
2013/](http://www.bruman.com/index.php/spring-forum-2013/)

**KBOR June
Conference –
June 12 – 13, Capitol
Plaza, Topeka**



Governor Brownback's CTE Initiative

In January 2012, Governor Brownback announced a bold and innovative plan to enhance career technical education in Kansas and better prepare high school students for college and careers. The legislature responded with Senate Bill 155 providing free college tuition for high school students earning college credits in tiered technical courses and incentives to school districts for students earning industry-recognized credentials in high demand occupations. The free college tuition applies to any and all postsecondary tiered technical courses in approved programs at Kansas public community and technical colleges.

The Governor Brownback's Secondary/Postsecondary Technical Education plan prepares students for a future of economic prosperity, prepares a qualified and talented workforce for business and promotes a robust economy for Kansas. The initiative helps the Governor meet his Roadmap Goals and has received national recognition as "Top Ten Innovations to Watch" from the Brookings Institute (see press release at:

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Multimedia/Interactives/2013/InnovationsToWatch/
Innovations%20to%20Watch%20Press%20Release%20%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Multimedia/Interactives/2013/InnovationsToWatch/Innovations%20to%20Watch%20Press%20Release%20%20FINAL.pdf)).

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Governor Brownback's CTE Initiative (continued from page 1)

Financial components of the CTE initiative included in Senate Bill 155:

Final appropriations for FY 2013 included \$10.8 million:

\$8.75 million - Student Tuition Support

\$3 million — Additional funds in Governor's Budget Amendment

\$1.5 million - Incentives to High Schools for student earned industry credentials

\$500,000 - Transportation costs (high school students to local community/technical college)

\$ 50,000 - Marketing

For further information on the initiative, as well as a list of Frequently Asked Questions, please visit:

Perkins Reauthorization

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 (Perkins IV; P.L. 109-270) supports the development of academic and career and technical skills among secondary education students and postsecondary education students who elect to enroll in career technical education (CTE) programs. Perkins IV was authorized through FY2012, which ended on September 30, 2012. The authorization is extended through FY2013 under the General Education Provisions Act. Potential reauthorization issues and recommendations have been put forward by the Department of Education, the Obama Administration's blueprint for reauthorization of Perkins IV, stakeholder and advocacy groups, and program evaluations.

The Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE), established the State Perkins Accountability Congress design team to assist the Department in formulating recommendations for reauthorization. Rita Johnson, Senior Director of Workforce Education at KBOR, was selected for membership on this national team. The team provided valuable feedback to OVAE and assisted with the development of the Blueprint for Reauthorization. The Blueprint establishes four core principles for reauthorization:

- (1) Alignment.** Effective alignment between high-quality CTE programs and labor market needs to equip students with 21st-century skills and prepare them for in-demand occupations in high-growth industry sectors;
- (2) Collaboration.** Strong collaborations among secondary and postsecondary institutions, employers, and industry partners to improve the quality of CTE programs;
- (3) Accountability.** Meaningful accountability for improving academic outcomes and building technical and employability skills in CTE programs for all students, based upon common definitions and clear metrics for performance; and
- (4) Innovation.** Increased emphasis on innovation supported by systemic reform of state policies and practices to support CTE implementation of effective practices at the local level. The full [Blueprint](#) for Perkins reauthorization may be found on the Department's website.

In addition, the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium Legislative Update recently featured a report compiled by the Congressional Research Service which summarized potential issues for Congress to consider during the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. View the full report [here](#).

Perkins funding is a critical component in both secondary and postsecondary CTE and we will provide updates on the progress of reauthorization in subsequent newsletters.

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Rigorous Programs Of Study (RPOS)

In 2010, The Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR), in collaboration with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), was awarded a Rigorous Programs of Study (RPOS) grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Entitled, “Career Ready Kansas” (CRK), the grant initiative showcases secondary and postsecondary partners delivering rigorous programs of study (POS). Focused on Manufacturing, the partners will develop and implement a rigorous program to improve student learning outcomes and respond to changing workforce and economic development needs in Kansas. The RPOS initiative utilizes four secondary (Derby, Emporia, Nemaha Valley and Wichita) and six postsecondary (Butler Community College, Flint Hills Technical College, Fort Hays State University, Hutchinson Community College, Manhattan Area Technical College, and Wichita Area Technical College) institutions. Currently in year 3 of this 4-year grant, strong partnerships are developing between business and industry and secondary and postsecondary education. These relationships are proving valuable in assisting students with a seamless progression from secondary to postsecondary to the workforce with the skills necessary to be successful in their chosen Career Technical Education field. The students are not the only ones benefiting from this grant; Manufacturing Pathway CTE instructors are also earning certificates and credentials, such as the American Welding Society’s Certified Welding Educator and Certified Welding Inspector. In addition, most of the instructors have earned the Manufacturing Skills (MSC) Train the Trainer Certificate, which allows them to provide the instruction for the certificate and have their students sit for the MSC examination.

The project has had numerous accomplishments during the first two years and years 3 and 4 promise to be even more productive as the partners settle into the 10 framework components of the grant. Continuing the emphasis on business and industry collaboration, driving CTE participation using the SB155 Governor’s Initiative, focusing on informing students and parents of the value of CTE, and developing plans to expand this model to additional schools will be the goals for year three.

The following website offers additional details on the initiative at: <http://crk.ksde.org/>.



<https://www.acteonline.org/>

Kansas Selected for Career Pathways Project

The U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) has selected Kansas, along with four other states to participate in Advancing Career and Technical Education (CTE) in State and Local Career Pathways Systems. Technical assistance will be provided to assist Kansas and the other selected states to build capacity to integrate CTE Programs of Study into their broader career pathways system. Kansas will be assigned a coach and will have subject matter experts available to help us develop and implement our action plans and achieve goals.

This project supports multiple existing projects in our state, including the Governor’s Secondary Postsecondary CTE initiative, Industry Credentials, Accelerating Opportunity and the Technical Education Authority’s advancement of technical programs.

Visit us on the web:**Kansas Board of Regents**<http://www.kansasregents.org/>**Technical Education Authority**http://www.kansasregents.org/t_e_a**Perkins Grants**<http://www.kansasregents.org/perkins>**State Technology Programs**[http://www.kansasregents.org/state technology innovation and internship program](http://www.kansasregents.org/state_technology_innovation_and_internship_program)**Other Grant Initiatives**http://www.kansasregents.org/other_grant_initiatives**Program Alignment**http://www.kansasregents.org/other_grant_initiatives

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