

6. Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education

- I. Annually, as part of the administration of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act:

The Council submits to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) an inventory of all degree and certificate programs offered by NJ's community colleges that meet the Perkins-eligibility requirements as determined by NJDOE in collaboration with the Council. This inventory is used as the basis for the Perkins Grant application.

NJDOE collects career and technical education (CTE) student and program performance data from NJ's Community Colleges using the Vocational Education Data System (VEDS). This information is used to calculate Perkins grant funding and accountability metrics for each college. Colleges are then required to expend their Perkins grant funding to improve the performance of any Perkins-eligible program that has not met the program performance targets.

Perkins funding to New Jersey's community colleges is based on the number of need-based, financial aid students who are matriculated in a degree or certificate program that meets Perkins-eligibility Principles and Guidelines (Attachment #4).

New Jersey's Community Colleges are responsible for working directly with NJDOE to submit its Perkins Grant application in order to receive approval for all Perkins grant expenditures.

- II. In order to meet its obligation, the Council authorizes its Learning Innovations Committee to engage in a process that will provide NJDOE with an inventory of Perkins-eligible degree and certificate programs offered by NJ's Community Colleges:
 - A. Every fall, the Learning Innovations Committee invites each college to review its inventory of Perkins-eligible programs; submit new programs; and revise and/or delete current programs.
 - B. The Chair of the Learning Innovations Committee invites and convenes a Perkins Subcommittee (made up of representatives from the Academic Affairs and Institutional Research Affinity Groups) to participate in the review of all documentation submitted by the colleges.
 - C. The Perkins Subcommittee determines whether or not each program meets the Perkins-eligibility Principles and Guidelines. The statewide inventory is updated accordingly and shared with the colleges.
 - D. Once the inventory of Perkins-eligible programs is final, it is submitted to NJDOE by no later than November 30th for its use in populating the Perkins Grant application.
 - E. NJCCC posts the final Perkins-eligible inventory to its website.

Perkins-Eligible Programs: Principles and Guidelines

According to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act:

Career and Technical Education are organized educational activities that:

1. *Offer a sequence of courses that:*
 - a. *Provides individuals with coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions;*
 - b. *Provides a technical skill proficiency, an industry-recognized credential, a certificate, or an associate's degree; and*
 - c. *May include prerequisite courses other than remedial courses that meet the requirements of this subparagraph; and*
2. *Include competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher –order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general and employability skills, technical skills, and occupational specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of industry, including entrepreneurship, of an individual.*

The following principles and guidelines further identify Perkins eligibility in addition to the Perkins Act definition:

Principles:

1. Credit for prior learning

Any program that awards credits for prior learning can be considered for inclusion on the Perkins-eligible program inventory if and only if the college catalog demonstrates that the student must take the requisite number of occupational/skills proficiency credits at the college in order to receive the degree.

2. Partnerships

Any college degree or certificate program that is delivered in partnership with another institution, hospital, or any other entity, can be considered for inclusion on the Perkins-eligible program inventory if and only if the college can demonstrate that it controls* the occupational/skills proficiency courses in the program, as defined in the Statement of Auditing and Accounting Standards for County Colleges, Section III. State Support.

*A college exercises "control" of the curriculum in a program, as defined in Section III. State Support of the Statement of Auditing and Accounting Standards for County Colleges, as described below:

- A. The program has been approved by the Academic Issues Committee and the New Jersey Presidents' Council.
- B. The College's Board of Trustees has authorized the program.
- C. All courses and curricula are approved through College governance procedures.
- D. The program and component courses have been recommended for authorization to the Board of Trustees after approval by the College's academic governance body.
- E. Program Assessment is the responsibility of the College.
- F. The College has final approval of the marketing and promotional materials for the program.
- G. Tuition and fees are collected by the College; revenue sharing is outlined in a contract signed by both institutions.
- H. Admission standards will be jointly developed by the College and partner institution.
- I. The College serves as registrar of the program, maintains records, and issues transcripts. Information may be shared with the partner institution subject to FERPA.
- J. Grade appeals fall within the jurisdiction of the College.
- K. Degrees are conferred by the College.
- L. Students are afforded access to all College services available to students enrolled in other programs at the College.
- M. There shall be a written agreement between the College and partner institution evidencing the above elements.
- N. The College has received approval to include the program from the appropriate accrediting agency, when applicable.

11/3/2014

Guidelines

1. **Credit Bearing Certificates** having at least 15 credits of occupational/skill proficiency courses that lead to high wage, high skill, high demand careers in current or emerging professions are eligible for Perkins funding. *A Credit Certificate program is a credit bearing program, which includes at least 30 credits, inclusive of 6 credits of general education.*
2. **Credit Bearing Certificates of Achievement** having at least 12 credits of occupational /skill proficiency courses, with no required general education courses, leading to high wage, high skill, high demand careers in current or emerging professions are eligible for Perkins funding.
3. **AAS career degrees** having at least 15 credits of occupational/skill proficiency courses that lead to high wage, high skill, high demand careers in current or emerging professions are eligible for Perkins funding.
4. **AFA degrees** that include at least 15 credits of occupational/skill proficiency credit courses that lead to high wage, high skill, high demand careers in current or emerging professions are eligible. AFA degrees in the visual and fine arts that are primarily designed for transfer are not eligible. *Examples of high demand careers in current or emerging professions in the arts would include careers as stage managers, stage directors, production assistants, digital media technicians, set design technicians, lighting and sound technicians, digital photographers, etc.*
5. **AS degrees** which include at least 15 credits of occupational/skill proficiency courses that lead to high wage, high skill, high demand careers in current or emerging professions are eligible for Perkins funding. Occupational/skill proficiency courses cannot be general education courses.
6. No **AA degrees** are eligible for Perkins Funding.

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