

# Education Funding: Perkins Act

## What do you need to know?

### PERKINS ACT

#### What is it?

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides approximately \$1 billion annually to States for the improvement of vocational and technical education programs. Funds are intended to help prepare students for the pursuit of high-demand or emerging occupations.

#### How are funds distributed?

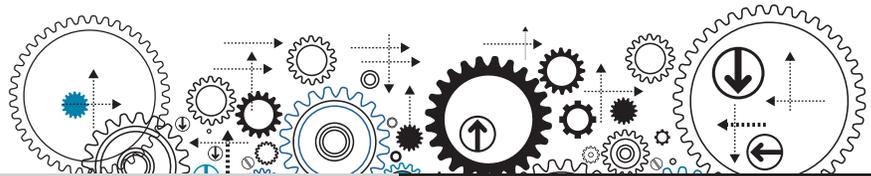
States and, subsequently, school districts receive Perkins funds based upon the most recent poverty estimates and the number of individuals aged 5 to 17 residing in the school district. States allocate formula funds and/or competitive grants to both school districts and postsecondary institutions. The specific distribution of funds varies by state.

#### What do we know about CTE students?

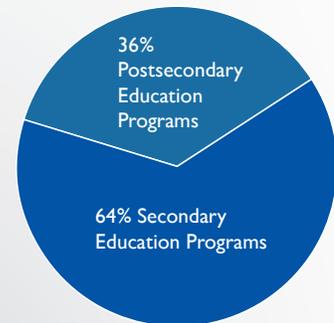
Ninety-six percent of high school graduates enroll in at least one career and technical education (CTE) course. As of 2004, 38% of high school students took three or more CTE courses.

Of the 2010–11 class that took three or more CTE courses in a single occupational area, 91% graduated from high school and nine months later 81% were employed, enrolled in higher education, or enlisted in the military.

Sixty-eight percent of CTE students focus on the occupational labor market, compared to 24% in the general labor market and 8% in family and consumer sciences. Within the occupational labor market, most students concentrate in one of sixteen Career Clusters, but students are increasingly participating in more than one Career Cluster. The top areas for students concentrating their CTE studies in one Career Cluster are reflected in the graph.

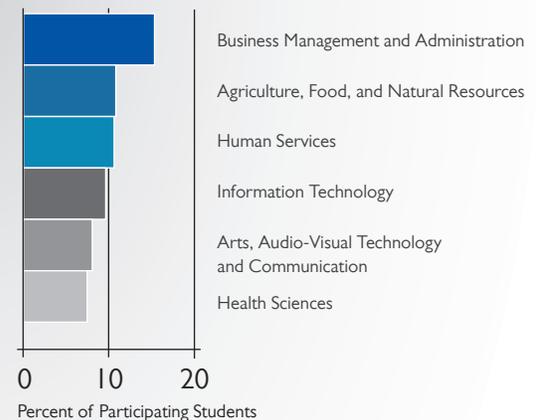


#### DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS



Source: ed.gov

#### TOP CAREER CLUSTERS FOR 2008-09



Source: cte.ed.gov

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