



## Perkins V Middle School Requirements

### Minimum Standards for Middle Grades Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Recipients that meet the following minimum standards will be allowed to expend federal funds received under Perkins V to plan, develop, and deliver quality middle school career exploration and development programming that is rooted in meaningful student activities and experiences. Recipients intending to use federal funds received under Perkins V shall meet the following minimum standards for middle grades career and technical education: [\(Review and add a checkmark next to each standard to verify that the standard is in place\).](#)

- Taught by a qualified CTE instructor meeting licensure, endorsement, or authorization requirements established by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners.
- Provide all students with awareness and exposure to the 16 Career Clusters® by way of one or more of the following:
  - Career and Technical Education courses like Agriculture; Business; Family and Consumer Sciences; Health Science; Industrial Technology; Information Solutions, which align with the six Iowa recognized CTE Service Areas; or
  - Offer a career pathways-based course or courses<sup>5</sup>.
- At a minimum, offer a course or courses to both seventh and eighth grade students, and may include a course or courses at the fifth and/or sixth grade levels.
  - Courses must meet a minimum of 6 weeks (30 days).
- Use state approved middle school CTE and 21st Century Skills standards to ensure students gain a full range of desired technical, academic and employability knowledge and skills.
- Help develop a student's occupational identity, employability skills, 21st Century Skills, and technical skills by providing hands-on, experiential learning.
- Incorporate learning into each student's Individual Career and Academic Plan as defined by Iowa Code chapter 279, section 61.
- Provide exploratory work-based learning experiences such as classroom speakers, industry tours, career fairs, projects, or hand-on experiences.
- Align to a variety of career development activities, including but not limited to career and academic counseling, high school programming, postsecondary alignment.
  - These activities should be part of the District's Career and Academic Planning Plan.

[Check the boxes below to certify that the school district is eligible for CTE middle school funding.](#) For questions concerning the middle school minimum requirements listed above, please contact Katy Blatnick-Gagne [katy.blatnick-gagne@iowa.gov](mailto:katy.blatnick-gagne@iowa.gov). For eligible use of funds contact Amy Vybiral [amy.vybiral@iowa.gov](mailto:amy.vybiral@iowa.gov).

- The middle school program meets the 12 minimum standards and is eligible to expend federal Perkins funds.
- The school district has prior approval of middle school expenditures that will be claimed for federal Perkins reimbursement from the CTE Bureau. Email list for prior approval to [amy.vybiral@iowa.gov](mailto:amy.vybiral@iowa.gov).
- The business office and/or Perkins contact will affirm either the use of locally developed middle school CTE standards or the Iowa high school CTE standards under the assurances required in the claim submission process.