U.S. Presidential Scholars in Career and Technical Education

Criteria for Candidate Identification and Nomination

The designated organization(s) will use the following *general principles* and *specific standards* to develop a pool of U.S. Presidential Scholars in Career and Technical Education (CTE) nominees.

General Guiding Principles:

- **Academic Rigor** – students will demonstrate high proficiency on their State's academic standards, based in part on their high achievement reflected on their State's academic assessments in the core academic subjects.

- **Technical Competence** – students will demonstrate mastery of technical skills demanded by industry.

- **Employability Skills** – students will demonstrate such professional skills as teamwork, decision-making, and problem-solving.

- **Ingenuity and creativity** – students will have solved a real-world problem through the application of technical skills they developed in their career area.

- **Application pool** – students will represent the multiple sectors that are viewed as the pillars of our nation's economic growth (i.e., the five sectors identified in President's Blueprint: Healthcare, IT, Advanced Manufacturing, STEM, and Transportation), as well as the socioeconomic characteristics of our nation's high school graduates.

Specific Standards:

- **Academic rigor** as calibrated to standard set by the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) and based in part on their high achievement reflected on their State's academic assessments in the core academic subjects:
  - An overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale (unweighted). Grade point average in their selected career pathway of 3.25 with no grade below B.

- **Technical competence** as demonstrated by *one or more of* the following:
  - Completion of a work-based or community-based learning experience (Note: The term 'work-based learning' means a program of structured work experiences (such as internships, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, school-based enterprises, and Supervised Entrepreneurial Experiences) that is coordinated with classroom-based learning and that is designed to enable students to learn and apply career and technical education skills and knowledge in a work context).

- Placing a medal in State and/or national Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) skills competition in his/her career area.
- Earning an industry-recognized certification/credential.[1]

- **Employability skills** as demonstrated by *one or more* of the following:
  - Completion of a work-based learning experience that is an integral part of the curriculum of the program of study.
  - Leadership role in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) at local, state, or national level.
  - Completion of a community service project or other student leadership activity in his/her career area of interest.
    - Scores at the Gold Level in each of the three core areas of the National Career Readiness Certificate (i.e., Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information), which means that the student has the foundations skills for approximately 90% of jobs of jobs examined.

- **Ingenuity/Creativity/Problem Solving** as demonstrated by *one or more* of the following:
  - Solution to a real-world problem (e.g., developed electric car that goes faster than any before).
  - Development of a new product/good or service (e.g., development of an app).

[1] The term 'certification' means a certificate from industry and awarded by a certification body based on an individual's demonstration, through an examination process, that he or she has acquired the designated knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform a specific job.