



Career & Technical Education

Guidance on Placement Surveys and “Related” Placements for CTE Concentrators

Audience

Secondary-level CTE participating districts/schools, career and technical education districts

Background

CTE concentrators who exit secondary education are eligible for a placement survey to be conducted by the school or district that taught the student in their CTE program(s) to document and report on the after-high school activities of the concentrator. Under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), concentrators may be considered to have placement if one or more of the following applies in the second quarter after the student exits secondary education:

1. The concentrator is enrolled in postsecondary education,
2. The concentrator is enrolled in an advanced training program,
3. The concentrator is serving in active-duty military service,
4. The concentrator is volunteering in a national service program or in the Peace Corp, or
5. The concentrator is employed.

In Arizona, secondary-level Perkins V grant sub-recipients are eligible to receive funding, through the CTE State Priority grant, for placements that are determined to be related to the student’s high school CTE program. Determination of “related” Placement is made by the sub-recipient and reported to the Arizona Department of Education – Career and Technical Education unit through the placement survey; this guidance document provides clarification on what may be considered “related” for such placement surveys.

For Perkins V grant purposes, including performance measures, the placement does not need to be considered related to the student’s high school CTE program.

Guidance

Verification of Placement Data

It is the responsibility of each district and/or CTED that submits placement survey data to verify the accuracy and completeness of the data that is submitted. Examples of data verification procedures may include documentation of employer contact, documentation

of enrollment in a postsecondary institution, documentation of enlistment in military service, etc.

Related Placements in Postsecondary Education and Advanced Training

Placement in postsecondary education or advanced training may be considered related if the curriculum of the postsecondary education program or advanced training program is **directly aligned to the technical skills and standards taught in the student's high school CTE program**. Such programs should be a continuation or expansion of the technical skills and knowledge learned in the student's high school CTE program.

Postsecondary education may be at any level, including community college (student in pursuit of an associate degree), college or University (student in pursuit of a Baccalaureate degree) or at any postsecondary education institution or advanced training provider (student in pursuit of any form of postsecondary certificate, credential, licensure, etc.).

Students who graduate from high school but remain enrolled in a career and technical education district central campus in the year immediately following graduation for the purpose of completing a CTE program may be considered placed in advanced training, but the placement may be considered related only if 1) the student became a concentrator prior to graduating high school and is continuing in the same program after graduation, or 2) the technical skills in the CTED central campus program align to the high school CTE program in which the student is a concentrator/eligible for placement.

Related Placements in Employment and Military Service

Placement in employment or military service may be considered related if the job duties performed by the student in the regular course of their employment or military service **directly align to the technical skills and standards taught in the student's high school CTE program**. To be considered related, the student's job duties should be the practical application of the technical skills and knowledge learned in the student's high school CTE program. Employment or military service with job duties that apply the professional skills learned in a CTE program but do not practically apply the technical skills may not be considered related placement.

The Arizona Department of Education – Career and Technical Education unit requires that job duties are accurately described in the placement survey when the respondent answers in the affirmative for either employment or military service placement.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships may be considered either employment (if the individual receives a wage for the performance of their apprenticeship job functions) or as advanced training (if the apprenticeship culminates in the award of a credential, certificate, license, etc.).

Professional Skills

Professional skills are an integral part of all CTE programs and are necessary to obtain a job and to be successful in that job in any career pathway. Since all CTE programs incorporate professional skills in the instruction of the program's standards, placement (in any category) that utilizes the professional skills learned in a CTE program but not the technical skills learned in the CTE program should not be considered a related placement; placements must align to the technical skills and knowledge learned in the student's CTE program to be considered a related placement.

Additional Resources and Information

Instructions and recommendations for conducting and recording placement surveys and results can be found on the CTE website here: www.azed.gov/CTE/cte-placement.

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