



Career & Technical Education

Guidance: Ensuring Accurate Credential Attainment Reporting

Audience

This guidance applies to secondary local education agencies that receive funding through the Federal Perkins V grant and that must report student third-party credential attainment information as a requirement of that grant.

Subject

LEAs that receive funding through the Federal Perkins V grant must accurately report all student third-party credential attainment through the CTE Data Portal using the definition for that report adopted in the Arizona Perkins V State Plan (available at www.azed.gov/cte).

Definitions

Recognized postsecondary credential means a third-party credential, license, or certificate approved by the Arizona Department of Education, Career and Technical Education unit (see list by fiscal year on the CTE website at www.azed.gov/cte/cte-industry-credentials).

Content

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century (Perkins V) Act requires that states report on core indicators of performance for CTE concentrators that are valid and reliable. In Arizona, one of the core indicators of performance is the attainment of industry credentials (5S1 Industry Credentials). Perkins V defines this indicator of program quality as “the percentage of CTE concentrators graduating from high school having attained a recognized postsecondary credential”. In Arizona, the operational definition for this indicator, adopted and approved in the Arizona Perkins V State Plan, is:

$$\frac{\# \text{ of graduating CTE concentrators that earned a credential}}{\# \text{ of graduating CTE concentrators that attempted to earn a credential}}$$

To accurately report credential attainment to correctly calculate this indicator of program quality, districts must report all attempts by their students to earn an approved credential. The performance measure calculation uses the attempt most beneficial to the student/district, such that if a student attempts to earn a credential and fails to do so on any number of attempts, but succeeds on their final attempt, the credential attainment rate is calculated as 100% (for this student).

Contact

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