



Nebraska State Plan for Career Technical Education

**In fulfillment of the requirements of the
Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006
P. L. 109-270**

Appendix B

**Results of input received from State Plan hearings and
web-based submissions**

Copy of hearing announcements

The first hearing will be held on February 13, 2008, 2-4:00 pm CT (1-3 pm MT in Scottsbluff). This one will be broadcast using the Nebraska Video Conference Network to multiple sites around the state.

The sites for February 13 are as follows:

Kearney: Kearney Public Library	NDE Host Facilitator: Gregg Christensen 2nd Floor, 2020 First Avenue
Lincoln: Lincoln Executive Building	NDE Host Facilitators: Rich Katt/Dean Folkers Suite 103, 521 S. 14th Street
Norfolk: NECC MaClay Bldg, Room 122	NDE Host Facilitator: Craig Frederick 801 East Benjamin Ave
North Platte: North Platte - ESU #16	NDE Host Facilitator: Tony Glenn 1221 W 17th, Dist. Learning Rm
Omaha: State Office Building-Room 207	NDE Host Facilitators :Bonnie Sibert/Shirley Baum 1313 Farnam St
Scottsbluff: Panhandle Research & Ext Center	NDE Host Facilitator: Rebecca Hasty High Plains Rm, 4502 Ave I

A second hearing will be held at 10:00 am in the State Board Room of the Nebraska Department of Education on Friday, February 15, 2008. This hearing will not be broadcast.

In case of weather issues, status of the hearing sites will be posted on <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/NCE/>

These are official hearings on the proposed state plan, not a question and answer sessions. Participants may deliver testimony that will be read into the official record. Testimony should be limited to five minutes or less. A written copy of the testimony is requested.

If individuals are not able to attend a hearing, written testimony may be submitted. Written testimony should be postmarked no later than February 11, 2008. Electronic testimony will also be accepted. Testimony should be delivered to:

Richard Katt
State Director, Nebraska Career Education
Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

Electronic submission should be forwarded to: rich.katt@nde.ne.gov

Testimony may be provided on support for career education, general support or concerns regarding the state plan, or addressing specific aspects of the state plan. All testimony will be attached to the state plan prior to submission to the U.S. Department of Education. Testimony will be considered in making any final changes to the state plan prior to adoption by the State Board of Education and submission to USDE.

Testimony received from February 13 hearing

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Public Hearing

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. CT (1:00 – 3:00 p.m. MT)

Rich Katt summarized the purpose of the Public Hearing:

This state plan will be in effect from 2006-2011. It was written in response to the Carl D Perkins Career and Technical Education act that was enacted in 2006. Nebraska is securing input at this time to present back to the State Board of Education for their consideration on March 7. If the State Board of Education approves the plan, it will be submitted to the United State Department of Education.

Rich noted that the opportunity still exists to amend the state plan if there is a major change. If an amendment is presented, than this procedure will be repeated through the Public Hearing process.

Rich called the meeting to order – Public to submit testimony were invited to speak.

Kearney:

Attending: Gregg Christensen, NDE representative

No public attendance

Lincoln:

Attending: Rich Katt, Dean Folkers, NDE representatives

Rich Katt, state director of Career Education opened the public hearing.

Dean Folkers, assistant state director, was also in attendance.

No public attendance

Norfolk:

Attending: Michele Strom, Sarah Dempsey, Karen Severson, Brandi Rossman, Cindy Baum, Lyle Kathol, Craig Frederick, NDE Representative

Testifying: Sarah Dempsey

Dempsey: I just have a comment about the 10% that is going to PFI. I had a conversation recently with the Chief Instructional Officers of the Community Colleges, and I don't wish to speak for that group, but the conversation included the idea that some of the 10% in that system might be useful—as we understand—that the high school system in Nebraska largely uses Angel as their distance-learning platform. Some of the community colleges are considering changing their course management systems right now and we wondered about the usefulness of spending some of that 10% to get us all Angel to get us on a common platform. I think it might be useful in articulating courses between the high schools and community colleges. I think it might also promote a smooth transition which is what Perkins is asking us all to do.

North Platte:

Attending: Marilyn McGahan, Bill Eakins, Jerlyn Hohnholt, Richard Heessel, Lenny Hassel, Tony Glenn, NDE Representative

Testifying: Marilyn McGahan, Northeast Community College

McGahan: The comment I have is with the new Network Nebraska and high school students being able to choose classes from throughout the state over the distance-learning system, whether it's through online courses or whether it's through ITV, (interactive television) or that type of system. Is that going

to present additional complications for accountability and reporting? I don't think we've taken into consideration distance ed classes in the past, and I don't know if that's been addressed in the state plan or not—since I have not read it word for word.

Omaha:

Attending: Teresa Eske, Delayne Havlovic, Ken Spellman, Erika Volker, Bonnie Sibert and Shirley Baum, NDE Representatives

Testifying: Teresa Eske, Ken Spellman

Spellman: One of the concerns I have is the Partnerships for Innovation. As you know, that is a sizeable contribution for Omaha Public Schools and the rest of the state of Nebraska. I know it's important that we look at technical attainment and articulation agreements, but I am really concerned about long-term ramifications with the Partnership for Innovation.

I am curious on the timeline. I'm not sure if we are going to be paying into this 10% fee for the next 5, 10 or 15 years. If so, it would be nice to have that information for long-term planning to meet our school's goals.

We are also concerned with a term we are unfamiliar with on page 40 that needs some future clarification “a guest audit will be conducted annually based on the accountability measures.” In addition the statement “coordination with the Integrated Continuous Improvement Visits are emerging as a strategy to understand and determine the effectiveness of coordinating federal and state programmatic visits to reduce the local burden and duplication of efforts among programs.” I need a little bit more information about what that means.

Eske: Basically, the only comment I have is I think it might be a good idea to include in the state plan the definitions of concentrator, participant, and even the sub-populations or special populations that we are required to report. I didn't see that anywhere in the state plan, but it would be nice to see it in writing.

Scottsbluff:

Attending: Mary Barkeloo, Kent McLellan, Al Chytka, Amy Stokes, Shirley Kath, Tom Wlaschin, John Bays, Jann Rouzee, Rebecca Hasty, NDE Representative

Testifying: Al Chytka, Alliance High School, Jan Rouzee, WNCC, Mary Barkeloo, WNCC

Chytka: The Technical Skills Attainment: I am curious as to how that will be measured, what kind of tools will be used, and at what level will there be third-party testing. I think there needs to be more definition as to the terms for both secondary and post secondary.

Rouzee: I guess I would add one more comment about something that I would like to see get addressed in the state plan. How would we recognize a post-secondary class as part of a defined program of study for secondary? For example, is there something approvable in place (such as career academies) where part of a program of study involves one class at the high school but two at the postsecondary? And can the high school consider that a program of study that is for state approval is in that career field area?

Barkeloo:

This morning we had a discussion and one of the questions that came up was about race. When I was at the accountability meeting, Dean handed out a survey with a two-part question. One of the questions was, are you a Latino, yes or no, and there was a response— and two, what is your race—choose one or

more, but there were 5 choices. I think this needs to be clearer unless there is something already that makes it clearer, but I did not respond to that question for lack of clarification.

Rich Katt left the meeting open for other possible testimony. No other testimony was presented.

Rich Katt closed the public hearing.

Testimony received from February 15 hearing

Friday, February 15, 2008

Public Hearing

10:00 –10:30 a.m. CST

Rich Katt, state director of Career Education opened the public hearing. Dean Folkers, assistant state director, was also in attendance.

Rich summarized the purpose of the Public Hearing:

This state plan will be in effect from 2006-2011. It was written in response to the Carl D Perkins Career and Technical Education act that was enacted in 2006. Nebraska is securing input at this time to present back to the State Board of Education for their consideration on March 7. If the State Board of Education approves the plan, it will be submitted to the United State Department of Education.

Rich noted that the opportunity still exists to amend the state plan if there is a major change. If an amendment is presented, than this procedure will be repeated through the Public Hearing process.

Rich called the meeting to order – Public to submit testimony were invited to speak.

Bruce Rockey, ESU 9- Hastings

“One concern to state that I’ve had since last year is the Partnership for Innovation council taking 10% of the Perkins funds. We are to submit these funds when we don’t have that many from the beginning.

Several teachers questioned me about the lower amount to use for their programs compared to previous years. They noted to me their concerns how a lower allocation and an extra 10% reduction would affect them.

I understand that it is for a good cause but I am wondering if there are other ways or methods to acquire funding for this purpose?”

Rich thanked the participants for attending.

Chuck Herbert, Maxwell Public Schools

Representing Maxwell School Board, Family Consumer Science and Industrial Technology and Maxwell career education departments

“I am concerned that in the many recent budgets from the state, we receive a reduction in funds but are required a greater amount of accountability. We try to put things together as best we can, but the reduction in funds seems to be more limiting every year—yet we were hoping that the State Board and the Department of Education would see to it that at least the funds would be maintained at their current

level and that the consortia that are forming for the utilization of those funds would be allowed a little bit more freedom in what they are doing. I speak for Maxwell and not for all the schools in our consortium out in ESU 16, ESU 15, but our big concern is the funding. It seems like small schools take a little bit more of the heat –so to speak– but in this situation it looks promising that we have ample time to assure funding and maintain funding as they are because of the grants that we get. The money we consort to use is very important to us

One big concern that we have specifically is *where are the teachers of Industrial Tech and Family and Consumer Science going to come from?* Because we have an aging population of instructors that come from all the schools that I know of and that are nearing retirement. The possibility of utilizing Perkins funds for Career Education and getting people interested in those particular areas is important. I think that's one area that really needs to be stressed. We appreciate what the State Department and the State Board of Education has done for us so far, and we hope that our relationship will continue and that this will amicably develop into something that we can all work with and keep this program moving like it should. Thank you.”

Rich Katt left the meeting open for other possible testimony. No other testimony was presented.

Rich Katt closed the public hearing.

Written testimony received is located on the following pages:

FROM : LILA KULWICKI - NVA

PHONE NO. : 402 423 6786

Feb. 13 2008 11:



P.O. Box 22607, Lincoln, Nebraska 68542-2607
Telephone/Fax (402) 423-6786
E-mail: acte.nebraska@juno.com

February 13, 2008

Richard Katt, State Director
Nebraska Department of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

Re: Perkins IV State Plan Testimony

The Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska has reviewed the Perkins IV State Plan being submitted to the U.S. Secretary of Education and has the following comments and recommendations:

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) representing the State Board for Career and Technical Education has prepared a visionary State Plan that addresses the required elements in the "Guide for Submission of State Plans" under Perkins IV.

The current Transition Plan merged Title I & II funding which all but eliminated categorical funding for Tech Prep articulation. Developing statewide articulation agreements was an original goal of Tech Prep and remains a priority under Perkins IV. Thus, eliminating Title II funding for Tech Prep has reduced a 15+ year effort for 2+2+2 articulation, professional development activities, curriculum mapping, and joint meetings between secondary and postsecondary education instructors to bridge curriculum offerings. What has occurred or not occurred during the Transition Plan year from an accountability perspective does not warrant continuing with the merger of Title I & II funding. Thus, the 60:40 funding split under Perkins III should be reinstated.

Reserving funds under Section 112 (c) for secondary innovation grants should be reviewed. What is the percentage of small secondary schools receiving funds as compared to larger institutions utilizing a staff grant writer? Also, dissemination of project results on a statewide basis has not been consistent. In some cases, attendance at the Nebraska Career Education Conference is the only way to access innovation grant results.

Appendix D lists the Essential Components required for participation in Perkins IV, but the items listed to approve eligible recipients for funding found in Section II A (f) are inconsistent. Additional information/criteria needed for approval should be specified/detailed in the State Plan along with a copy of the Monitoring Manual.

FROM : LILA KULWICKI - NVA

PHONE NO. : 402 423 6786

Feb. 13 2008 11:10

Clarification on Personal Learning Plans (PLP) is needed between this State Plan and NDE Rule 10. Does the State Plan mandate that all secondary education students, including Special Population students, and those students not enrolled in Career and Technical Education courses, must have a Personal Learning Plan?

An integrated standard-based curriculum on all aspects of an industry is needed for Career and Technical Education instructors at both the secondary and postsecondary levels.

Confusion exists with the creation of the Partnership for Innovation consortium. The intent seems visionary under the set aside funds for Leadership. Eligible recipients have three options for Programs of Study, and becoming a member of this consortium should also be a local decision. Otherwise, this arrangement would constitute another Administrative entity at the State level with an inherit level of continuous funding that local recipients would lose control or oversight of.

The Nebraska Department of Education should provide individual on-site technical assistance to each school, consortium and postsecondary education institution on Programs of Study, developing local applications to meet adjusted levels of performance, and qualifying criteria for meeting the Essential Components (Appendix D) required for participation in Perkins IV. Eligible recipients need this assistance to determine an "annual cost basis" for sustaining a level of participation with Perkins IV at the local level. In addition, Regional technical assistance meetings should be held on a quarterly basis involving all state professional staff with official proceedings posted on the NDE Career Education website.

NDE should publish a calendar of annual submission dates that allows eligible recipients adequate time to prepare requested information for funding and accountability. These dates should be disseminated on NDE's "Approvable Forms Calendar" and updated for meeting Federal funding requirements.

For the Association,

Richard Campbell by LK

Richard Campbell, Legislative Committee Chair

Bonnie Malcolm by LK

Bonnie Malcolm, President



tfortney@lps.org
02/13/2008 02:02 PM

To nce@nde.ne.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Carl Perkins Funding

To Whom It May Concern,

This is my seventeenth year teaching and I am very concerned when people talk about Carl Perkins funding being cut. This money greatly helps with FCCLA (Family, Career, Community Leaders of America) a great student organization that focuses on the family and leadership. In addition, this funding source helps Family and Consumer Science teachers travel to workshops to stay updated on issues and helps supplement our budgets by buying items we would otherwise be able to pay for. More and more of the jobs in the workforce require an AA degree not a four year bachelors so career and technical education is needed now more than ever. Thank you for your careful consideration. I would hope that the war isn't more important than preparing our students for the future.

Tracy Fortney

Fernando Lecuona III
Commissioner



Dave Heineman
Governor

March 10, 2008

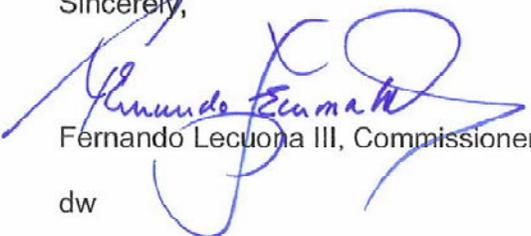
Mr. Richard Katt, State Director
Nebraska Career Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987

Dear Rich:

Thank you for sharing the proposed Perkins IV Nebraska Plan for Career and Technical Education. Upon review of the Plan, I want to compliment you and your staff for the new and creative approaches outlined in the Plan. Career and Technical Education plays an instrumental role in preparing young Nebraskans for tomorrow's jobs. Many of your initiatives that focus on collaboration between secondary and post-secondary education, emphasis on professional development, concentration on Career Pathways, and commitment to statewide Articulation Agreements and/or dual credit courses is to be commended.

I also want to thank you for your leadership in initiatives like FutureForce Nebraska and Nebraska Career Connections. We are proud to partner with you on these projects and look forward to complete implementation.

Sincerely,



Fernando Lecuona III, Commissioner

dw

cc: Joan Modrell

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR