



Nebraska Career Education Guide

Grant Management Information Forms and Applications

for the
**Carl D. Perkins
Career and Technical Education
Improvement Act of 2006**

Nebraska Department of Education
Nebraska Career Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
402-471-4809
www.nde.state.ne.us/NCE/

Revised February 2009

It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age, or national or ethnic origin in its education programs, admissions policies, employment, or other agency-administered programs.

Nebraska Career Education



Building a High-Quality Career Education System A Vision for the Future

From a beginning in the early 1900's that focused on training young men to return to the farm, career education has been an important part of education in Nebraska. For over a century, as a part of comprehensive high schools and postsecondary institutions, career education has provided students with necessary academic and technical skills for employment. But Nebraska and our world are changing. Moving from reliance on the steam engine to the everyday use of the search engine, rapid changes in technology, globalization, shifting demographics, and increased accountability pressure on education have provided the impetus for rethinking the design and delivery of career education in Nebraska.

Over the past five years, NCTE staff at the Nebraska Department of Education has engaged numerous stakeholders from across the state representing K-12, postsecondary, business and industry, and workforce and economic development partners to develop a conceptual framework for creating Nebraska Career Education for the 21st Century. This framework, including a vision, mission statement, and guiding principles set the stage for the work being completed. The State Plan for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 provides support to implement this new framework for Nebraska Career Education.

Vision

Nebraska Career Education provides a world-class program that engages students in high-quality, rigorous, and relevant education, enhanced with partnerships with business and industry, workforce and economic development that allows students to turn their passion, talent and ability into successful careers and fulfilling lives.

Mission:

The mission of Career Education in Nebraska is to prepare all individuals to

- Learn through career exploration and technical skill development while meeting academic standards,**
- Earn as productive citizens in a global society, and**
- Live as a contributing member of their community.**

We believe Nebraska Career Education provides students with:

- **knowledge, attitudes and skills to live and work as productive individuals who are successful in their work, family and community.**
- **educational experiences for personal and professional growth.**
- **opportunities to apply academic knowledge and skills.**
- **world of careers application of academic skills.**
- **preparation to meet the challenges of a fast-changing society.**
- **meaningful experiences through partnerships in the business community.**
- **contextual learning, work-based learning and workplace skills delivered through a relevant, rigorous curriculum.**
- **personal development through student-led leadership.**
- **learning environments conducive to authentic assessment.**

Delivery:

Nebraska Career Education is delivered through a variety of programs of study in the Nebraska Career Model. The career fields and clusters identified in the model are:

Communication and Information Systems Career Field

- Clusters:**
- Arts, Audio-Video Technology & Communications
 - Information Technology

Business, Marketing and Management Career Field

- Clusters:**
- Business Management & Administration
 - Finance
 - Hospitality & Tourism
 - Marketing

Environmental and Agricultural Systems Career Field

- Cluster:**
- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Health Sciences Career Field

- Cluster:**
- Health Science

Human Services and Resources Career Field

- Clusters:**
- Education & Training
 - Government & Public Administration
 - Human Services
 - Law, Public Safety & Security

Industrial Manufacturing and Engineering Systems Career Field

- Clusters:**
- Architecture & Construction
 - Manufacturing
 - Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
 - Transportation, Distribution & Logistics



Goals for Nebraska Career Education Learners

All learners should have access to quality career education programs of study.

All learners should achieve high academic standards, occupational and employability skills so they are prepared for employment and post-high school education.

All learners should have access to quality career management information.

All learners should be able to make smooth transitions through the education system into the workplace to attain economic self-sufficiency and become contributing members of their family and community.

Career Development in Nebraska Schools

Career development is at the heart and soul of career education. It is the very essence of why we are here. Even though we have many different facets to career and technical education our purpose is still directed to the individual student being able to enter a decision making process that considers self-understanding, the ever changing world of work and how to connect that information in order to make a satisfying decision. The entire decision making process which starts at a very early age and continues throughout a lifetime is called career development.

Career development is delivered through comprehensive school counseling programs directed by a professional school counselor and enhanced by the many opportunities within career education.

Nebraska comprehensive school counseling programs are designed around national/state/local competencies within four domains: career development, academic development, personal development and social development. Together, all four domains connect to student career maturity that enhances career development.

The Nebraska School Counseling Essential Learnings are aligned and crosswalked with National Career Development Association Standards and the American School Counseling Association Standards

Career development within a comprehensive school counseling program is a systematic, developmental and age appropriate for ALL students grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12 grade and aimed to continue into postsecondary education. The essential elements of career development within a comprehensive school counseling program are: curriculum and individual planning.

Curriculum for all students will teach to the process of career development and offer opportunities for awareness, exploration, preparation and application of different career fields.

Individual planning will provide students and parents the benefit of advisement considering the specific goals unique to them. The school counselor's/advisor role is to assist the family in connecting to the appropriate education and resources. Empowering students and parents to set goals and make decisions together is ideal in career development.