



TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Donlynn Rice, Senior Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction
Richard Katt, Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: Rule 47

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the Commissioner to approve a hearing draft, appoint a hearing official and set a date for a hearing for proposed Rule 47, Regulations for the Approval of Career Academies

Background Information:

This Rule is proposed pursuant to Section 79-777, AND 79-318 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.). The Rule governs the (a) establishment, evaluation and continuing approval of Career Academy Programs; (b) career based curriculum utilized by the Career Academy Programs; (c) necessary data elements and collection of data pertaining to Career Academy Programs including but not limited to, the number of students enrolled in a Career Academy Programs and their grade levels; and (d) the establishment of advisory boards consisting of business and education representatives to provide guidance and direction for the operation of Career Academy Programs under the provisions of Sections 79-777, AND 79-318 R.R.S.

Estimated Cost:

Cost of the hearing and printing/publication of the Rule - \$1,000.00. Paid with Federal Perkins Funds

Supporting Documentation Included:

Copy of the Rule is attached

For Additional Information on this item:

TITLE 92 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 47 - REGULATIONS FOR CAREER ACADEMY PROGRAMS
ESTABLISHED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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TITLE 92 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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001 General Provisions

001.01 Statutory Authority. This Chapter is adopted pursuant to Section 79-777, AND 79-318 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.).

001.02 Scope and Application of this Rule. This Chapter governs the (a) establishment, evaluation and continuing approval of Career Academy Programs; (b) career based curriculum utilized by the Career Academy Programs; (c) necessary data elements and collection of data pertaining to Career Academy Programs including but not limited to, the number of students enrolled in a Career Academy Programs and their grade levels; and (d) the establishment of advisory boards consisting of business and education representatives to provide guidance and direction for the operation of Career Academy Programs under the provisions of Sections 79-777, AND 79-318 R.R.S.

001.03 Intent. This Chapter provides for the approval and continued operation of any Career Academy Program that is established by a school district.

001.04 Related Regulations. In addition to the requirements of this Chapter, public school districts are also governed by regulations contained in Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC), Chapter 10, dealing with the accreditation of schools; 92 NAC Chapters 21 and 24 dealing with teacher certification and endorsement; and 92 NAC Chapter 51 dealing with special education programs.

002 Definitions.

002.01 Academic courses include Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies/History.

002.02 Advisory Board means a group of education, business and community representatives who advise educators, administrators and boards of education on Career Academy Programs.

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002.03 Career Academy means a defined sequence of credit bearing academic and career technical courses which reflect a Career Cluster selected in response to local, regional or state employment needs and demand for expertise.

002.04 Career Cluster means a grouping of career pathways and occupations identified by the Nebraska Career Education Model, (See Appendix A)

002.05 Career Readiness Standards means the standards adopted by the Nebraska State Board of Education on December 8, 2011 and found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/NCE/Standards.html>

002.06 Career Student Organization(s) means a district level chapter of one or more of the following organizations: Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA); Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA); Future Educators of America (FEA); HOSA | Future Health Professionals (HOSA); Nebraska Association of DECA; Nebraska FFA Association and Nebraska SkillsUSA.

002.07 Career Technical Education means a program of defined sequences of courses organized by the Nebraska Career Education model, (see Appendix A), which includes career student organizations, career guidance, and work-based learning. Career Technical Education may begin in middle grades continuing through secondary education and may include postsecondary education.

002.08 Commissioner means the State Commissioner of Education.

002.09 Course means a particular subject, subject area or defined sequence of learning experiences scheduled during the school day with a certified teacher assigned and with one or more students enrolled and in attendance.

002.10 Department means the State Department of Education, which is comprised of the State Board of Education and Commissioner.

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002.11 District means the territory under the jurisdiction of a single public school board as authorized in Chapter 79 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

002.12 Dual Credit Course means a college level course taught to students by an appropriately Nebraska certificated instructor for transcribed credit at both a high school and a postsecondary education institution.

002.13 Extended Learning Opportunities means opportunities and activities conducted to enhance classroom or laboratory instruction provided through career technical education such as work-based learning, career student organizations and community service activities.

002.14 Industry Certification means a credential awarded by an industry association or independent agency that requires passage of an examination benchmarked to predetermined occupational or professional standards.

002.15 Learning Community means a political subdivision which shares the territory of member school districts and is governed by a Learning Community Coordinating Council and which is established pursuant to Section 79-2102 R.R.S.

002.17 Middle grades means grade(s) designated by the school district as middle and may include any grades from four through nine. The middle grades typically include at least grades seven and eight. Common middle grade configurations are grades six through eight or seven through nine.

002.18 Nebraska Career Education (NCE) Model is the organizing structure of occupational knowledge and skills adopted by the Nebraska Department of Education (see Appendix A).

002.19 Personal Learning Plan means a student tool used to identify coursework and activities for the purpose of high school and postsecondary planning.

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002.20 Private entity means a business, industry, nonprofit organization or individual.

002.21 Program of Study means a coordinated non-duplicative sequence of courses within a career cluster that aligns secondary academic and career technical education with postsecondary education and that are listed as a Nebraska State Model Program of Study by the Department at <http://cestandards.education.ne.gov/>.

002.22 Postsecondary education includes apprenticeship, workforce or employment training programs, community colleges, baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate opportunities.

002.23 Postsecondary education institution means an accredited community college, state college, university or non-profit private postsecondary institution.

002.24 Teacher means a person who is certificated pursuant to 92 NAC 21 to teach.

002.25 Work-based Learning means an educational strategy that provides a range of experiences that are intentionally designed to help students to extend and deepen classroom instruction through experiences in the employment sector.

003 Career Academy Program Approval Process.

003.01 Career Academy Program Application. Each district establishing a Career Academy Program under this chapter shall submit an application electronically via the Department portal by November 1 of the school year preceding the start of the Career Academy Program. The Career Academy Program application must document each of the following components:

003.01A Planning as defined in 004.01A1a – 004.01A1g.

003.01B Curriculum as defined in 004.02A.

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003.01C Career Development as defined in 004.02B.

003.01D Career Student Organization as defined in 004.02C.

003.01E Work-Based Learning as defined in 004.02D.

003.01F Recruitment of Students as defined in 004.02E.

003.01G Advisory Board as defined in 004.05.

003.02 Career Academy Program Approval. Career Academy Programs established by the district shall be approved by the Commissioner pursuant to this Chapter.

003.03 Approval Requirements. Approval requires compliance with the requirements identified in subsections 004.01 and 004.02 of this Chapter.

003.04 Initial Career Academy Program Approval. Initial Career Academy Program approval is granted for a one school year beginning on July 1 of the school year in which the Career Academy Program is to begin.

003.05 Renewal of Career Academy Program Approval. Renewal of Career Academy Program approval requires compliance with the requirements identified in subsections 004.01 and 004.02 of this Chapter as documented by an annual report for the preceding school year, submitted electronically via the Department portal by the December 15.

004 Specific Requirements for Career Academy Programs Established by District.

004.01 Planning. Each district establishing a Career Academy Program shall conduct a planning process. The planning process shall include the following:

004.01A Establish a Career Academy Program Taskforce consisting of representatives of education, business or industry and the community to assist in conducting the planning process which

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shall include but is not limited to:

004.01A1 Evaluation of the applicant district's current career technical education program of study offerings, career guidance, and extended learning opportunities.

004.01A2 Identification of needed Career Academy Program's Program(s) of Study based on regional and state workforce and economic development needs.

004.01A3 Identification of technical skill assessment or industry certifications, work-based learning, career student organization and extended learning opportunities that could be available through a Career Academy Program's Program of Study.

004.01A4 Identification of the potential for alignment of career academy programs of study to postsecondary educational institution(s) offering a Program of Study in the same Career Cluster.

004.01A5 Identification of needed staffing and professional development.

004.01A6 Identification of private entity partners and potential resources.

004.01A7 Identification of the opportunities for collaboration with other school district(s), an Educational Service Unit, a Learning Community, a postsecondary educational institution or private entity in the establishment and operation of the Career Academy Program.

004.02 Required Career Academy Program Components.

004.02A Curriculum. Career Academy Program curriculum shall include courses including:

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004.02A1 A credit-bearing career exploration course which introduces students to the Nebraska Career Education Model in preparation for a Career Academy Program, and

004.02A2 A Program of Study that includes:

004.02A2a A credit-bearing introductory course within the scope of the Career Academy Program's Program of Study, and

004.02A2b A minimum of two credit-bearing career technical education courses to develop the appropriate knowledge and skill in preparation for employment or entrepreneurship in the Career Academy Program's Program of Study, and

004.02A2c Academic course(s) offered for credit with the course content taught in context of the Career Academy Program's Program of Study.

004.02B Career Development. A Career Academy Program shall include a defined program of career development including but not limited to:

004.02B1 Career information including career interests and aptitude assessments, labor market data, and postsecondary education and training options.

004.02B2 Career exploration and planning activities.

004.02B3 Personal Learning Plans.

004.02B4 Opportunities to learn and practice the Nebraska Career Readiness Standards as standards adopted by the Nebraska State Board of Education and found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/NCE/Standards.html>.

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004.02C Career Student Organizations. A Career Academy Program shall include a chapter of the career student organization, chartered in Nebraska, aligned to the focus of the Career Academy Program's Program of Study.

004.02D Work-Based Learning. Career Academy Programs shall include work-based learning activities as part of the Career Academy Program's Program of Study that may include but is not limited to internships, apprenticeships, job shadowing, or business/industry visits and explorations.

004.02E Recruitment of Students. The district, collaborating with identified Career Academy Program's partners, shall develop a process for the recruitment of students. The process shall include the following components:

004.02E1 Communication and marketing efforts in the district to parents, students, community members and non-academy teachers, and

004.02E2 Student career interest and aptitude surveys or assessments, and

004.02E3 Student application and acceptance policies determined by the school district

004.02F Instructors. The district shall secure the services of teachers who meet the requirements of Nebraska Department of Education, Title 92, Chapters 21 and 24. Teachers shall hold a valid Nebraska Teaching Certificate.

004.04 Participation. Participation of students in any approved Career Academy Program under this Chapter shall be voluntary.

004.05 Advisory Board. A local Career Academy Program advisory board shall be established with membership representing key stakeholders from business and industry, community and education.

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CHAPTER 47004.05A The advisory board shall be comprised of no less than fifty-one percent (51%) business and industry and community members not currently employed by the district. Other representation may include: parent(s) of career academy program student(s); career academy program student(s); career academy program teacher(s); school counselor(s); postsecondary admissions personnel; administrator(s); local chamber of commerce; business organizations; or workforce professionals.

004.05B The advisory board shall meet a minimum of two times during a school year.

004.05C An advisory board shall provide input on but not limited to:

004.05C1 Aligning the Career Academy Program to economic and labor market needs.

004.05C2 Identifying external partners.

004.05C3 Securing and allocating financial, material and personnel resources.

004.05C4 Aligning curriculum and instruction to include but not limited to coursework, graduation requirements and career academy program exit requirements, and alignment with postsecondary educational institution(s) entrance requirements.

004.05C5 Securing work-based learning opportunities including but not limited to internships, job shadowing, guest speakers, and career guidance.

004.05C6 Identifying needed professional development;

004.05C7 Evaluating the Career Academy Program's effectiveness.

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005 Career Academy Program Continued Operation.

005.01 Career Academy Program Annual Report. An Annual Career Academy Program Report Form shall be submitted electronically via the Department portal by the district by July 15.

005.01A The report shall include the following information from the prior school year:

005.01A1 Alignment with Career Academy Program required components as defined in Section 004.02 of this chapter.

005.01A2 Career Academy Program students' achievement data including performance on NePAS and performance indicators as required by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 or subsequent career technical legislation.

005.01A3 Results of Career Academy Program student participation and satisfaction survey

005.01A4 Results of stakeholder satisfaction survey (e.g. parents, community leaders, business/industry)

005.01A5 Description of Career Academy Program accomplishments

005.02 Improvement Plan. When the Annual Career Academy Program Annual Report reflects failure to comply with the requirements of Section 004.02, (as required in 005.01A1) it shall be accompanied by an improvement plan, submitted electronically via the Department portal by July 15.

005.03 Loss of Approval. A Career Academy Program not in compliance with the requirements of this Chapter may be subject to loss of Career Academy Program approval. The Commissioner may, at his or her discretion, to deny Career Academy Program approval.

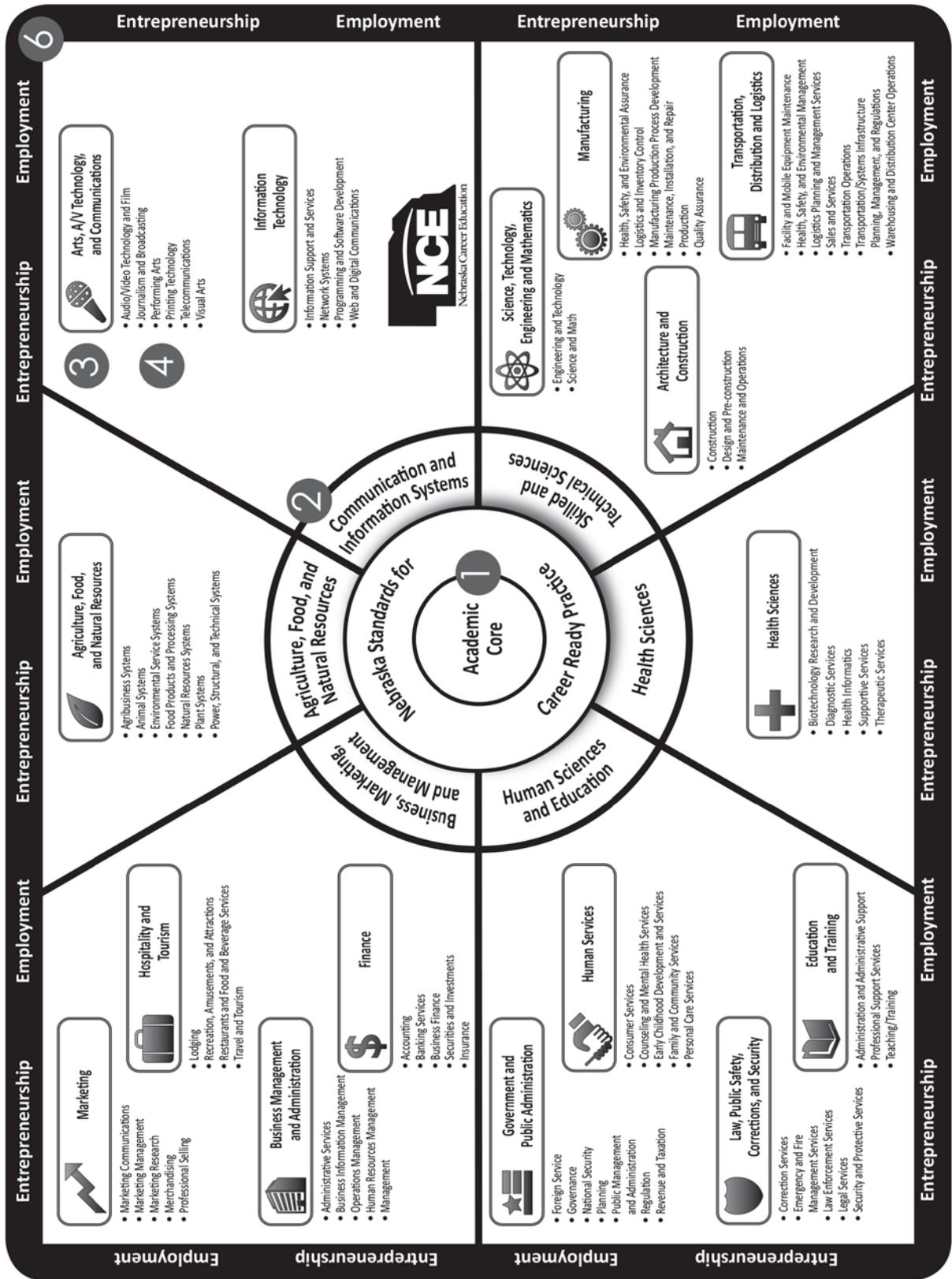
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005.03A When the Commissioner makes a recommendation to deny program approval or continued operation, notice of the recommendation from the Commissioner shall be given by certified mail. Copies will be sent to the head administrator of the district. The notice shall specify the basis for the recommendation. The district will have a maximum of thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the certified letter to appeal.

005.04 Appeal. Recommendations from the Commissioner to deny Career Academy Program approval or continued operation pursuant to Section 005 may be appealed under 92 NAC 61. All hearings arising under this Chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the hearing procedures of 92 NAC 61, including provisions of that Chapter relating to evidence.

Appendix A

Understanding the Nebraska Career Education Model



Understanding the Nebraska Career Education Model

Nebraska Career Education is depicted by the NCE model, a visual map of “career fields” and “career clusters/pathways”. The model organizes the 16 National Career Clusters into six broad sectors of entrepreneurship and employment:

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Business, Marketing and Management
- Communication and Information Systems
- Health Sciences
- Human Sciences and Education
- Skilled and Technical Sciences

These fields break down into more specific Career Clusters, Pathways and Occupational Specialties. The model provides a way for:

- Students to explore the diversity of career options available to them
- Students to begin to prepare for their career with plans for secondary and postsecondary education
- Schools to organize curriculum into Programs of Study that prepare students for opportunities in Nebraska's economy

1 Academic Core/College and Career Readiness

At the center of the NCE Model is the expectation for all students to develop a solid academic core. The next ring identifies specific college and career readiness standards and practices that prepare students for success in postsecondary education as well as entrepreneurship/employment.

2 Career Fields

The six career fields represent broad sectors of the job market on which students may choose to focus.

3 Career Clusters

Each career field is composed of career clusters radiating out from it. The clusters are more specific segments of the labor market. Each cluster is a grouping of careers that focus on similar subjects or similar skills. A basic understanding and exploration of each of the clusters will provide students with a solid foundation for career decision-making to conceptualize the entire world of work.

4 Career Pathways

Listed below each cluster, career pathways (indicated with red bullets) further define the specific types of career opportunities within the cluster. Each career pathway within a cluster requires mastery of a more specific set of knowledge and skills related to that pathway.

5 Career Specialties (not shown)

Career Specialties (not shown on the model) are the specific occupation/job titles within a cluster and pathway. With changes in technology, the labor market, and international economy, new job titles will be created while others decline or disappear.

6 Employability and Entrepreneurship

Career education provides the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills for both employment AND entrepreneurship. The reality for Nebraska and the United States is that entrepreneurship will help ensure our economic growth and vitality. By infusing entrepreneurship competencies, career education is helping to create the next generation of America's innovators and entrepreneurs.