

I. PLANNING, COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

- 1.01 The eligible agency (State Board of Vocational Education) shall conduct public hearings in the state, after appropriate and sufficient notice, for the purpose of affording all segments of the public and interested organizations and groups an opportunity to present their views and make recommendations regarding the State Plan. [Sec.122(a)(3)]

The State Board of Vocational Education conducted hearings at the following locations after filing the required notices as outlined in Nebraska Statute.

January 4, 2000 - 6:30 p.m.	January 5, 2000 - 6:30 p.m.	January 18, 2000 - 6:30 p.m.
Millard Admin. Center	Northeast Comm. College	Mid-Plains Comm. College
5606 South 147th St.	801 East Benjamin Ave.	Voc.-Tech Campus
Omaha, NE 68137	Norfolk, NE 68702	1101 Halogen Drive
		North Platte, NE 69101

These three public hearings allowed all segments of the public and interested organizations and groups (including employers, labor organizations, and parents) an opportunity to present their views and make recommendations regarding the State Plan. The public hearing notices were announced in the following manner:

- Public notices were placed in all daily newspapers with statewide coverage.
- Letters of invitation were sent to all secondary schools, postsecondary institutions, business and industry, and the Association of Career and Technical Education of Nebraska.

- 1.02 A summary of the recommendations and the eligible agency's response to such recommendations shall be included in the State Plan. [Sec.122(a)(3)]

A summary of the recommendations received at the hearings and the State Board of Vocational Education's response to the recommendations is included in Appendix I.

- 1.03 The eligible agency shall develop the State Plan in consultation with teachers, eligible recipients, parents, students, interested community members, representatives of special populations, representatives of business and industry, and representatives of labor organizations in the State, and shall consult the Governor of the State with respect to such development. [Sec.122(b)(1)]

This State Plan was developed in consultation with teachers, eligible recipients, parents, students, interested community members, representatives of special populations, representatives of business and industry, representatives of labor organizations, and the Governor's Office.

- 1.04 The eligible agency shall develop effective activities and procedures, including access to information needed to use such procedures, to allow the individuals listed in [Sec.122(b)(1)] to participate in state and local decisions that relate to the development of the State Plan. [Sec.122(b)(2)]

The State Plan was developed by task forces for each of the major components of the plan. Each task force included appropriate representation as noted above. Each task force reviewed the summary results of the statewide needs assessments and developed goals, objectives, activities

and proposed outcomes for the various sections of the Plan. The results of the task force deliberation can be found throughout the Plan. A summary of these goals follows:

1. To expand linkages among employers, schools and parents to increase career opportunities for all students.
2. To increase student competencies that will enhance workplace readiness through lifelong learning and career management in a rapidly changing world.
3. To enhance educators' skills in technical competencies in order to expand, revise, or repackage curriculum.
4. To develop, improve, or expand the technology, equipment, and delivery systems to meet the changing demands and needs of business and industry.
5. To promote vocational and technical education among students, educators, business/industry, and the community, emphasizing the contributions made to the total development of the individual and society.

Proposed uses of funds at the local level will be determined by the eligible recipients based on their self assessment, the summary needs assessment of the state, and recommendation from their local advisory councils.

- 1.05 The eligible agency shall develop the portion of the plan relating to the amount and uses of any funds proposed to be reserved for adult vocational and technical education, postsecondary vocational and technical education, tech-prep education, and secondary vocational and technical education after consultation with the state agency responsible for supervision of community colleges, technical institutes, or other two-year postsecondary institutions primarily engaged in providing postsecondary vocational and technical education and the state agency responsible for secondary education. If a state agency finds that a portion of the final State Plan is objectionable, the state agency shall file its objections with the eligible agency. The eligible agency shall respond to any objections of the state agency in the State Plan submitted to the Secretary. [Sec.122(e)(3)]The State Board of Vocational Education is the sole state agency with authority over the allocation of these funds to all appropriate levels of instruction, secondary, postsecondary, and adult. The task forces developed under 1.04 have representation from secondary, postsecondary, and adult education as well as representation from the Workforce Investment Board.