

Minnesota Position on Perkins Career Technical Education Consortium Membership

Formation of Perkins Career Technical Education (CTE) Consortia

Minnesota school districts and community/technical colleges self-formed into 26 Perkins Consortia in 2008 to promote collaborative planning and implementation of career and technical education programs within the region. In identifying initial membership in the state's Perkins consortia, career and technical education leaders were asked to consider the following for their region of the state:

- Career and technical education program improvement
- Anticipated programs of study
- Dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities
- Collaborative history and culture
- High school to college matriculation patterns
- Geography
- An operating structure that gave special attention to capitalizing on the strengths of the existing basic grant and tech prep leadership
- Continuation of effective collaborative activities that promote high school to college transition
- A decision-making model that would equitably and effectively address career and technical education programming

The Minnesota Career Technical Education state leaders at Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Education reserved the right to approve the final membership of any Perkins consortium to ensure that no eligible college or any eligible school district was excluded.

Consortium Membership Requirements

- Each consortium must have at least one eligible secondary member school district and at least one eligible postsecondary member college.
- No school district or college may belong to more than one consortium.
- Charter schools with a state-approved CTE program must be invited to participate in a consortium.
- The state CTE leaders reserve the right to mediate the final consortium structure to ensure that no interested college or school district is excluded.
- Representatives from Adult Basic Education, the Work Force Center system, business and industry and community organizations may be invited by the local consortium to participate as partners as the consortium deems appropriate.

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Consortium Governance

The consortium governance structure is determined by the consortium with the following requirements:

- The superintendent(s) and college president(s) of participating secondary and postsecondary consortium members identify at least one secondary and one postsecondary consortium coordinator.
- Each consortium must develop a single annual plan and unified budget to guide the planning, implementation and use of funds for improving career and technical education programs in their consortium.
- Each consortium identifies one secondary fiscal host school district and one postsecondary fiscal host college with the responsibility to manage the funds distributed to the consortium in accordance with the Perkins Act and Minnesota state law.
- The defined leadership structure of the consortium maintains authority for all secondary and postsecondary spending decisions, and independent spending authority may not be delegated to any individual school district or college partner.
- The consortium plan includes the consortium's initiatives to accomplish the five goals established by the Minnesota State Perkins Plan and the plan to meet the negotiated performance indicators required under the law by the US Department of Education, Office of Career Technical and Adult Education.
- The consortium plan receives approval and signature support from each member school district superintendent and each college president to show agreement with the plan's content.

Changing Consortium Membership

It is the intent of Minnesota Career Technical Education state plan that the Perkins consortium structure will provide consistent and effective career and technical education planning and program operation for the region. As such, changes in the membership of a Perkins consortium must be made with careful consideration of the effects on students, member institutions and the consortium.

If a consortium member school district or college wishes to withdraw from one Perkins consortium and join a different consortium, the following shall apply:

1. The Minnesota State Director of Career Technical Education must receive a written request for consideration of change and a rationale for such change in consortium membership from the superintendent of the consortium member school district or the president of the member college requesting the change.
2. The Minnesota State Director of Career Technical Education must receive written acknowledgement of the requested change in membership indicating an understanding of the implications of such change from all consortium member superintendent(s) and college president(s). In the case of a request to join a consortium, all consortium member superintendent(s) and college president(s) must indicate their agreement with the requested change.

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3. The request for consortium membership change and the acknowledgement by all members must include evidence of consideration of the following potential impact on the consortium:
 - *Financial impact of changes in the census, geographic, participation and Pell grant variables that determine the level of the consortium's Perkins funding.
 - *Changes in consortium performance on Perkins accountability indicators and performance targets
 - *Availability of career technical education programming for all students in the consortium
 - *Effect on existing articulated and dual credit agreements between secondary and postsecondary member Institutions
 - *Changes in consortium's State Approved Programs and Study and Technical Skill Assessment offerings
 - *Changes in consortium leadership, personnel and governance structure
4. Where withdrawal from a consortium would affect the funds received by the consortium due to population or program participation¹, such withdrawal would become effective at the beginning of the fiscal year after the end of the next fiscal year (e.g. a withdrawal request submitted prior to June 30, 2015 would be effective July 1, 2016).

The Minnesota Career Technical Education state leaders at Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Education reserve the right to approve the final membership of any Perkins consortium to ensure that no eligible college or any eligible school district is excluded.

¹ Consortium funding is based on a formula that includes the following factors:

1. US Census population by school district of individuals aged 5-17
2. US Census population by school district of individuals aged 5-17 living in households of poverty
3. The number of individuals in eligible postsecondary institutions who are Federal Pell Grant recipients or recipients of assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs enrolled in career and technical education programs
4. The geographic area of the independent school district members of the consortium
5. The prior year enrollment in career and technical education programs at the eligible school districts (including charter schools) and community/technical colleges