

Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act Minnesota Core Indicator Proposed Grant Year 5 through 8 State-Determined Performance Levels for Public Comment

The *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act*, signed into law in July 2018, outlines secondary and postsecondary **core accountability indicators** for states to use to determine if they and their eligible local recipients are meeting statewide CTE goals. Minnesota's definitions for the indicators can be found in the **Accountability Definitions-Secondary** and **Accountability Definitions-Postsecondary** documents.

For each core accountability indicator, Minnesota is required to set accountability performance targets, referred to as **State Determined Performance Levels, or SDPLs**, in the accountability section of the State Plan. The State Plan is a four-year plan that outlines the details of how the state will implement the provisions of the Perkins V Act and also establishes SDPLs for the four years covered by the State Plan.

Minnesota's current State Plan expires at the end of the 2023-2024 school year, or grant year 4, and Minnesota is required to develop another four-year State Plan, to go into effect in the 2024-2025 school year, by either minimally revising the existing State Plan or rewriting the State Plan. In the new State Plan, Minnesota is required to set SDPLs for each accountability indicator, at minimum for the first year covered by the State Plan (grant year 5), possibly up through the last year covered by the State Plan (grant year 8). Minnesota opted to establish SDPLs for each core accountability indicator for all four years covered by the new State Plan, and Minnesota is now accepting public comment on these proposed SDPLs.

The methodology used to establish the SDPLs follows the guidelines in Perkins V Sec. 113 (b)(3)(A)(ii) which require the SDPLs for each indicator to be higher than a baseline rate calculated by averaging the actual performance of the two most recently completed programs years (grant years 2 and 3). The legislation also requires the SDPLs to show continuous meaningful progress (i.e., not remain flat from year to year). Several methodologies were explored for determining secondary and postsecondary SDPLs for the four years covered by the State Plan. For secondary, a model based on enrollment trends, with equally apportioned increases each year provided the best fit and met the greatest number of established criteria. For postsecondary, to support the continuous improvement seen in the first few years of the Perkins V grant, Minnesota determined that a model with linear conservative growth over four years would be most appropriate. The calculated baseline and the resulting proposed SDPLs for both the secondary and postsecondary core indicators are available for review in the tables that follow.

Secondary Core Indicators

Core Indicator	Baseline Rate: Grant Years 5-8	State Determined Performance Levels			
		Grant Year 5	Grant Year 6	Grant Year 7	Grant Year 8
1S1: Graduation Rates (4-year)	92.69%	92.70%	92.85%	93.01%	93.17%
2S1: Academic Proficiency: Reading/Language Arts	53.08%	53.09%	53.31%	53.54%	53.77%
2S2: Academic Proficiency: Mathematics	36.46%	36.47%	36.72%	36.98%	37.24%
3S1: Post-Program Placement	55.05%	55.06%	55.45%	55.84%	56.23%
4S1: Nontraditional Program Concentration	28.14%	28.15%	28.44%	28.73%	29.02%
5S3: Program Quality: Work-Based Learning	13.18%	13.19%	13.68%	14.18%	14.68%

Postsecondary Core Indicators

Core Indicator	Baseline Rate: Grant Years 5-8	State Determined Performance Levels			
		Grant Year 5	Grant Year 6	Grant Year 7	Grant Year 8
1P1: Postsecondary Retention and Placement	90.80%	91.03%	91.26%	91.49%	91.72%
2P1: Earned Recognized Postsecondary Credential	52.32%	53.01%	53.69%	54.38%	55.07%
3P1: Nontraditional Program Enrollment	17.15%	17.37%	17.59%	17.81%	18.03%

How to Submit Comments

The public comment period on the proposed performance levels runs from December 8, 2023 through January 7, 2024.

Comments can be submitted online on the Public Comment webpage: www.MinnState.edu/cte-public-comment.

You can also ask a question or leave your comments by sending an email to PublicComments@minnstate.edu. Specifically, comments are requested on the following topics:

- Do the proposed state-determined performance levels meet the requirements of the law?
- Do the proposed state-determined performance levels support the improvement of all CTE concentrators, including **subgroups** of students as specified in Section 1111(c)(2)(B) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and **special populations**, as described in Section 3(48)?
- Do the proposed state performance levels support the needs of the local education and business community?

If your comment is related to performance levels on a specific indicator, please note the core indicator number in your comment (e.g., 1S1, 2P1, etc.).