



Programs of Study: Going Beyond the Spreadsheet

November 9, 2023



MINNESOTA STATE
Career and Technical Education

mi DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Presenting

Brought to you by:



Shelli Sowles
CTE Coordinator
shelli.sowles@state.mn.us



Robb Lowe
Director of CTE Pathways
robb.lowe@minnstate.edu

Take Aways



Objectives

- Able to define the characteristics of a Program of Study in Minnesota
- Understand the connection between Programs of Study and the CLNA
- Importance of Communication and Coordination within Programs of Study

What's Happening



Agenda

- ✓ Curious Question
- ✓ Fun Facts
- ✓ Definitions
- ✓ Processes
- ✓ Communication

From Your Perspective



Curious ?

- What do you see as some of the biggest challenges surrounding POS?

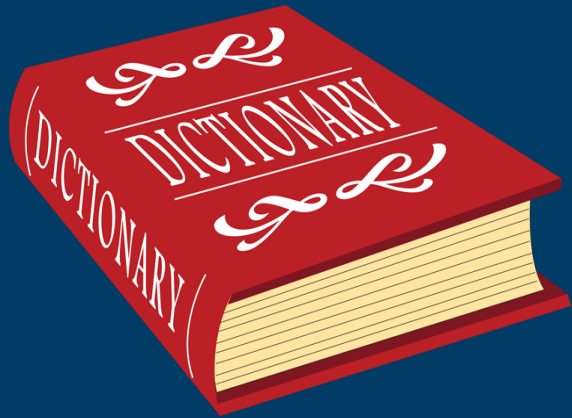
Did You Know?



Fun Facts

- This year what was the highest # of S-R POS for any consortium?
- Last year what was the highest # of colleges listed for a S-R POS? What was the average?
- This year what was the highest # of college programs listed for a S-R POS? Average?

Definitions



Types of Programs of Study

- Federal Programs of Study
- Minnesota Programs of Study
 - State Recognized Program of Study (S-R POS)
 - Consortium Funded Program of Study (Funding POS)

The state asks consortium to include their specific S-R POS and Funding POS on a spreadsheet as a part of the plan application.

Federal



Program of Study Definition (POS)

A coordinated, non-duplicative sequence of academic and technical content at the secondary and postsecondary levels that:

- incorporates challenging State academic standards,
- includes both academic and technical knowledge and skills including employability skills,
- is aligned with local and regional needs of current and emerging occupations,
- progresses in specificity and leads to more occupation-specific instruction,
- has multiple entry and exit points that incorporates credentialing,
- culminates in the attainment of a recognized postsecondary credential

Program of Study Definition (POS)

State: State - Recognized POS



State – Recognized POS: Components

- Academic, Technical, and Employability Skills
- Integrated Network of Partners
- MDE CTE Approved Program
- Minnesota State Program Approval
- Materials, Equipment, & Resources
- Authentic Work Experience
- Supported by CLNA

State: Perkins Funded POS



Funding POS

- Can be a S-R POS
- Can be a POS that is not S-R – that doesn't meet all the criteria of a S-R POS
- POS that needs updated equipment, PD, curriculum development, personnel, strengthening the partnership to workforce

State: S-R POS (Cont.)



Definition

MDE CTE Program Approval

MDE-Approved
CTE Program

[Minn. R. 3505.2550](#)

Components of an Approved CTE program:

- ❖ Licensed teacher(s)
- ❖ Student Leadership
- ❖ Career Development
- ❖ Advisory Committee
- ❖ Safety Training
- ❖ Superintendent Assurances
- ❖ Two or more courses



Minnesota State



Postsecondary Program Approval

- Systemwide over 4,000 programs
- College submits a letter of inquiry 6 – 12 mo.
- College then develops and completes a New Program Approval Rubric:
 - Aligned with MN State Mission / Policy
 - Aligns with workforce & community needs
 - Student interest & need
 - HLC compliance
- College programs undergo an annual review
- College programs are assigned a CIP code

Follow Through



CLNA Drives the Process

- Before we even begin to think about spreadsheets and alignments
- What is the CLNA telling us

Huh?
What?



Communication

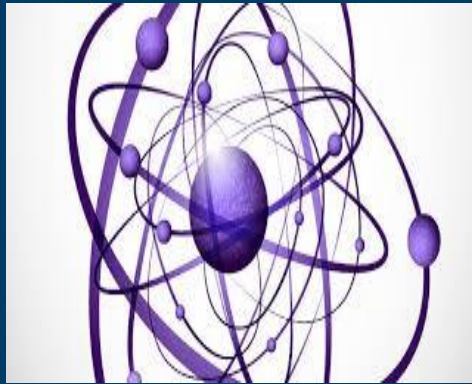
- Essence of the Consortium Structure
 - Meaningful Dialog
 - Joint Planning



Passive Vs. Active Coordination of POS

Understanding Each Other's Process

Included in your overall consortium plan



One of the Bigger Challenges



Alignment

- Career Wheel Designations:
 - Field
 - Cluster
 - Pathway
- Between Secondary & Postsecondary
 - Cluster
 - Pathway

Q & A

