

Carl D. Perkins

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) was most recently reauthorized in August 2006. The purpose of Perkins is to provide individuals with the academic and technical skills needed to succeed in a knowledge- and skills-based economy. Perkins supports career and technical education that prepares its students both for postsecondary education and the careers of their choice.

In achieving the Perkins' purpose, the Lake Superior Consortium was formed. It is a shared collaboration between Lake Superior College (LSC) and the following six Independent School Districts:

- Cook County – ISD #166
- Duluth – ISD #709 (Denfeld and East)
- Esko – ISD #99
- Hermantown – ISD #700
- Lake Superior – ISD #381 (Silver Bay and Two Harbors)
- Proctor – ISD #704

The mission of the consortium is to support Career and Technical Education (CTE) by utilizing consortium funds to provide for staff development, program development, student support services, program awareness and promotion, innovative programming and new initiatives.

The goals of the consortium are:

- Designing & Implementing Programs of Study: Goals, Objectives and Strategies
- Effectively Utilize Employer, Community and Education Partnerships
- Improve Service to Special Populations
- Provide a Continuum of Service Provision for Enabling Student Transitions
- Sustain the Consortium of Secondary and Postsecondary Institutions

Guidelines:

The Lake Superior Consortium follows the Carl Perkin's mandates, rules, directions and guidelines as established in Perkin's Act of 2006—Section 135. We use input from high school and college faculty, counselors, administrators, and the program approval process to select programs to receive support each fiscal year. We focus on funding efforts on classroom programs that are taught by a certified CTE instructor and in course areas that are program approved. The ten elements of rigorous programs of study serve as the guiding pathway for the consortiums' efforts in the evaluation of our Programs of Study.

The consortium meets monthly during the school year (September-May) for updates and decision making including recommendations to fund special project grants. In addition the Carl D. Perkin's grant provides the MN Career Information System (MCIS) system to all eight high schools within the consortium.

Brad Vieths is the Vocational Programs coordinator for Duluth Schools and serves as the Secondary Coordinator for the Consortium. Rich Sill is the rural secondary liaison and represents Cook County, Esko, Hermantown, Lake Superior and Proctor for the consortium. The Postsecondary Carl D. Perkin's Coordinator at LSC who coordinates and facilitates all consortium meetings is Jim Schwarzbauer. He can be reached at j.schwarzbauer@lsc.edu or 218-733-5944.