



STATE PLAN OVERVIEW

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) became law on July 31, 2018. It replaced Perkins IV and outlines requirements for Career and Technical Education programs. States are developing plans that outline how they will implement Perkins V beginning July 1, 2020. Below is an overview of Arkansas' plan.

SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF ARKANSAS' PERKINS V STATE PLAN WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

- **Prepare** high school and college students for high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand future careers.
- **Develop** a strong pipeline of talent for Arkansas' employers.
- **Build** stronger communities.
- **Engage** stakeholders in workforce and education planning and solutions.
- **Establish** clear and consistent goals for alignment of education and workforce systems.
- **Provide** excellence in education and equal opportunities for all students.

To accomplish these objectives, Arkansas' plan focuses on the six essential areas listed below. Action steps will be implemented to achieve successful outcomes in each of these areas. To learn more, visit <https://dcte.ade.arkansas.gov/Page/PerkinsV>.

Equal Opportunities for All Students	Workforce Alignment	Clear Pathways to College and Career	Stakeholder Engagement	College, Career, & Community Readiness	Student-Focused
Arkansas strives to ensure that every student has access to quality CTE programs. (p. 15, 22, 31, and 35)	Arkansas' CTE programs provide quality instruction that aligns to workforce needs and economic priorities. (p. 11, 12, 17, 19, 26, 27, and 30)	Clear pathways to college and career are identified and communicated to students. (p. 11, 15, 19, 21, 22, 26, 28, 30, and 36 plus the dcte.ade.arkansas.gov website)	Stakeholders with a wide variety of experiences and perspectives are continuously engaged in the development and implementation of CTE programs. (p. 6, 7, and 19)	Students develop workforce readiness skills (critical thinking, problem solving, and communication) essential to success beyond high school. (p. 12, 15, and 35)	Arkansas' CTE programs provide student-focused career advice and instruction that aligns to workforce needs. (p. 12, 15, 18, and 35)

STATE PLAN KEY DEFINITIONS

Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides students with rigorous academic content and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions, which may include high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations. Below is a list of key definitions:

CTE Concentrator	CTE Completer	Program of Study	Non-traditional	Industry Recognized Postsecondary Credential	Work-Based Learning (WBL)
<p>A student who has completed at least (2) courses in a single career and technical education program of study. At the postsecondary level, a student who has earned at least 12 credits within a career and technical education programs of study.</p>	<p>A student who fully meets the standards outlined in an approved CTE program of study by completing (3) courses in a single career and technical education program of study culminating in the attainment of an industry recognized postsecondary credential.</p>	<p>A coordinated, non-duplicative sequence of academic and technical content at the secondary and postsecondary level that incorporates challenging State academic standards, addresses both academic and technical knowledge and skills, including employability skills; is aligned with the needs of industries, progresses in specificity; has multiple entry and exit points that incorporate credentialing; and culminates in the attainment of a recognized postsecondary credential.</p>	<p>Refers to a student participating in an occupation or a CTE program in which individuals or one gender comprise less than 25% of the individuals employed in each such occupation or CTE program or field of work. This term closely mirrors the federal definition of 'non-traditional fields', but refers to the students participating in or learning about those fields.</p>	<p>A credential consisting of an industry-recognized certificate or certification, a certificate of completion of an apprenticeship, a license recognized by the state involved or Federal Government, or an associate or baccalaureate degree. In Arkansas, certificates awarded by two-year institutions are also recognized as a recognized postsecondary credential.</p>	<p>Sustained interactions with industry or community professionals in real workplace settings, to the extent practicable, or simulated environments that foster in-depth, first-hand engagement with the tasks required of a given career field, that are aligned to curriculum and instruction.</p>