

**LOUISIANA
CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT (CAR) NARRATIVE
FOR REPORTING YEAR 2007-2008**

Introduction

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) serves as the eligible agency for the administration of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Funds. LCTCS and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), partnering with other state agencies, is committed to preparing a high quality workforce that trained for new and existing high-wage, high-demand, and high-skill occupations. Career and technical education is one of the most valuable assets to help create opportunities for education and training – efforts that will contribute to a dynamic economic and workforce environment that will benefit the citizens of Louisiana.

Program Year 2007 – 2008 was consumed with the completing the Louisiana State Plan and all of the requirements such as the Statewide Awareness meeting held around the state to gather data and comments regarding the draft plan. The data collected during the State Plan Awareness meetings was invaluable. The second part of the program year state, CTE personnel spent a great deal of time providing technical assistance to the locals. Louisiana requires that all of the local eligible recipients (secondary and postsecondary) to meet quarterly and to plan jointly for the upcoming year. The quarterly meetings are instrumental in the growth of working relationships.

Implementation of State Leadership Activities

Required Uses of Funds

Career and Technical Education on both the secondary and postsecondary levels addressed the required uses of leadership funds in a variety of actions and activities that include the following:

Assessment of Program Activities

- Continued refinement of the web-based Career and Technical Education (CATE) Data Collection System that provides a comprehensive tool to assess career and technical education and provide for data-driven decision making at the state, district, school, and student level
- Conducted program assessment in 1/5 of the school systems as a component of the LDE Comprehensive Monitoring System
- Monitored progress of students and teachers participating in industry-based certification testing

- Both secondary and postsecondary utilize the curriculum and industry developed assessments and certifications from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) for many related programs. Use of NCCER provides continuous assessment of program activities and a measurement of quality of teachers and students.
- The LCTCS and LDE along with its respective Boards continue to place an emphasis on the achievement of national standards within the CTE programs and for CTE teachers and faculty.
- Leadership of the Louisiana Technical College underwent training to improve their ability to manage CTE programs and services.
- The State Director's office contributed staff support to assist with the efforts to develop a portfolio system for the technical sector of the LCTC System.

Developing, Improving & Expanding the Use of Technology

- LCTCS and LDE supported a state membership for CompTIA so that secondary and postsecondary students and teachers have access to industry-recognized certifications in Information, Communication and Technology programs at lower costs
- Provided software and training for the utilization of the web-based curriculum for the secondary Pharmacy Technician course
- Worked with data collection consultant to update electronic data collection system used by secondary eligible recipients
- Worked with data collection staff and the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid to discuss implementation of the electronic transcript as well as data collection for TOPS, TOPS Tech, and Early Start students
- The LCTCS and industry partners (Pearson, AT&T) initiated the development of LCTCSOnline. LCTCSOnline is not a college itself, but it will be a way for students to access their college programs through a single website and choose their preferred home college in Louisiana from which to receive their credits and degree. On a limited basis, LCTCSOnline will go live in January 2009.

Professional Development

- Planned and hosted the Super Summer Institute for teachers, counselors and administrators, which included 60 sessions and 1000 attendees from secondary school systems. Postsecondary CTE faculty, staff, and administrators participated in the planning of the SSI, hosted sessions, workshops, and symposiums during the SSI.
- Planned and conducted semi-annual meetings for secondary Career and Technical Education supervisors at secondary level
- Planned and hosted regional Industry Based Certification trainings for teachers
- Developed and conducted presentations at the Louisiana Association of Career and Technical Education annual meeting
- Developed and conducted presentations at the American Association of Agricultural Educators annual meeting
- In support of secondary to postsecondary activities, teams of secondary and postsecondary teachers, faculty, counselors, and administrators from each of the LCTCS regions attended the Career Clusters Institute in Atlanta. This was in support of the state's work to develop Louisiana's Career Pathways (programs of study).

Through professional development, the State Director's office is guiding the education of the secondary and postsecondary personnel in effort to expand the knowledge base of all CTE personnel.

- November 1 & 2, 2007, a two-day Career Clusters/Program of Study Workshop was held in Baton Rouge for regional partners (secondary and postsecondary, industry, and universities). National experts, along with state CTE leaders were utilized as carryout this activity. The outcome for this activity was the development of state samples of programs of study.
- Spring 2008, LCTCS hosted a follow-up workshop to the Career Clusters/ Program of Study Workshop. This was an opportunity for the regional teams to report on their progress and to refine their products.
- Provided support for the Leadership Development Institute for emerging leaders for the community and technical college system. Participants are exposed to issues and trends that influence community and technical college education on a regional, state and national level.
- In conjunction with LCTCS supporters, leadership funds used to support of the community and technical colleges "Conference Day." The purpose of the conference is to enhance the professional and technical skills of postsecondary faculty and staff.
- The LCTCS State Director's office provided technical assistance to Perkins recipients at statewide and regional meetings.
- The LCTCS Secondary to Postsecondary Transitions Coordinator planned monthly professional development workshops to continue the development of the College and Career Transitions Coordinators (formerly Tech Prep Coordinators).
- Faculty, staff, and administrators participated in a two-day Career Pathway Certification Workshop. The Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) conducted the workshop.

Support for Programs That Improve Academic, Vocational and Technical Skills of Students

- Developed course descriptions and model course guidelines for the following courses: Engineering Design I, Engineering Design II, Pharmacy Technician
- Worked collaboratively with the Louisiana Community and Technical College Systems (LCTCS) to developed curriculum and dual enrollment agreements for Veterinary Assistant program which has been endorsed by the Louisiana Veterinary Medicine Association
- Refined and updated existing the Areas of Concentration offered
- Worked with secondary and postsecondary instructors to pilot and refine Entrepreneurship standards and curriculum
- Developed new Agriscience Education Model Course Guidelines and aligned the guidelines to the academic Grade Level Expectations
- LDE staff participated in Career Pathways meetings hosted by the Louisiana Technical College focusing on Manufacturing (Region 4), Maritime (Region 3), and Information Technology (Region 8). The development of these pathways was initiated by LCTCS with funding from the Ford Foundation, continued with postsecondary Perkins leadership funds, and basic grant funds.

- Coordinated the annual meeting of the Secondary Schools Pharmacy Tech Advisory Board.
- Standardized curricula on a statewide basis in the four craft areas of carpentry, electrical, HVAC, and welding.
- Worked collaboratively with the LCTCS and the Board of Regents (BOR) to conduct the Secondary to Postsecondary Curricula Committee for the Success Through Articulations (STArt) initiative to continue development of statewide articulation agreements
- LCTCS, LDE, and Business/Industry representative worked collaboratively to initiate an Industrial Maintenance curriculum with associated certifications and dual enrollment opportunities.
- LDE collaborated with the National Emergency Medical Services regarding the start up of an EMT Basic course for secondary instructors.
- Louisiana is a member of the Multi-Academic Vocational Curriculum Consortia (MAVCC) to develop curriculum and instructional materials for technical education.
- The LCTCS staff participates on the LDE High School Redesign Committee, which is looking at how to make the four years of high school more meaningful.
- Perkins Leadership funds provide support for the statewide training activities led by the Louisiana Skills USA and FBLA. LDE provides support for HOSA.
- Discussions held with SREB regarding possible joint ventures to integrate mathematics in postsecondary CTE programs. This would entail a great deal of professional development for selected program faculty.

Providing Preparation for Nontraditional Training and Employment

- Louisiana maintains membership in the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE).
- The state utilizes the option to set aside funding for a nontraditional/equity staff person and activities. This position assists all Perkins eligible recipients and is responsible for Methods of Administration reporting and campus monitoring.
- Technical assistance provided to eligible recipients on this subject during various activities such as on-site monitoring visits to assure compliance, through presentations at various statewide meetings and conferences, and via e-mail or telephone.

Supporting Partnerships to Enable Students to Achieve State Academic Standards and Vocational and Technical Skills

- Continued association with the Louisiana Automotive Dealers association to participate in the AYES program for automotive technology
- Served as liaison between high school cooperative education teachers and the Louisiana Workforce Commission (formerly the Louisiana Department of Labor) in obtaining employment certificates for cooperative education students
- Partnered with Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) to provide publications and internet resources specific to occupational training opportunities and career awareness for all ages

- Worked with BOR to update and revise the statewide Articulation Report for presentation to the Louisiana Legislature (Louisiana Department of Education)
- Worked with the Louisiana Health Works Commission to write the third annual Louisiana Health Works Commission Report
- Met several times with multi-agency representatives including BOR and LCTCS to work collaboratively on the promotion and development of statewide articulation agreements
- Worked collaboratively with the National Emergency Medical Services regarding the start up of an EMT-Basic instructors course for secondary instructors
- Coordinated the annual meeting of the Secondary Schools Pharmacy Tech Advisory Board
- Worked with the Louisiana Craft Workforce Development Board to prepare a report on the state of the construction industry in Louisiana after the hurricanes and recommendations for government and industry to address the issues facing the industry
- The State participates on the National Consortium for Entrepreneurship Board and the International Advisory Board for Computer Literacy.
- LCTCS collaborates with Career Builders to assist in the development and growth of the Process Technology program. Career Builders and industry provide scholarship support to students enrolled in the Process Technology.
- Perkins Leadership funds provide support for the statewide training activities led by the Louisiana Skills USA and FBLA. LDE provides support for HOSA.
- The LCTCS and its colleges actively participate in the Gulf Coast Process Technology Alliance (GCPTA) and Industrial Instrumentation and Controls Technology Alliance (ICTA).
- Secondary and Postsecondary state CTE staff participate with other state agency representatives on the Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Council. The Council makes recommendations to the Workforce Commission for statewide IBC initiatives.

Serving Individuals in State Correctional Institutions

- Work with the Office of Youth Development to assure that CTE programs for incarcerated youth align with secondary CTE programs.
- One percent of leadership funds are set aside for vocational training activities conducted by postsecondary institutions at corrections facilities around the state. Funds were used to purchase equipment and instructional supplies to enhance the learning process.

Support for Programs for Special Populations

- Worked with LDE Special Populations Section to help local school systems provide skills training opportunities for students at all levels.
- The state utilizes the option to set aside funding for a nontraditional/equity staff/special populations staff person and related activities. This position assists all Perkins eligible recipients and is responsible for Methods of Administration reporting and campus monitoring.

- LCTCS personnel provide technical assistance to eligible recipients on this subject during various activities, such as on-site monitoring visits to assure compliance, through presentations at various statewide meetings and conferences, and via e-mail or telephone.

Technical Assistance for Eligible Recipients

- Louisiana provides technical assistance to eligible recipients through such methods as workshop, conferences, regional meetings, professional development, e-mail and assistance via e-mail.

Permissible Uses of Funds

Improvement of career guidance and counseling

- Recognized 280 school counselors with legislated salary supplements for earning nationally recognized certifications
- Conducted presentations to counselors at the Louisiana Counselors Association Annual Meeting
- With the development of Louisiana's Five-Year State Plan, there is a focus on career guidance and counseling on both the secondary and postsecondary levels. It is especially important to those entering CTE programs at the postsecondary level. This will be a continued emphasis for Louisiana.
- College and Career Transitions Coordinators and the Basic Grant Coordinators plan and conduct professional development activities for this population regarding opportunities for secondary students.
- The state of Louisiana has developed a web portal for K-12 and college students, parents, and businesses to utilize statewide. LA ePortal is Louisiana's state-of-the-art online career, college and work planning guide students. Designed especially for Louisiana, LA ePortal is one option for career exploration information. The portal has many tools for students and parents to use. The web address is <https://laeportal.com/main.aspx?stg=home&item=main>.

Establishment of agreements between secondary and postsecondary vocational and technical education programs

- Collaborated with multi-agency representatives (LCTCS, BOR and LDE) to promote and develop statewide articulation agreements.
- Secondary and Postsecondary state CTE staff participate with other state agency representatives on the Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Council. The Council makes recommendations to the Workforce Commission for statewide IBC initiatives.

Support initiatives to facilitate the transition of associate degree CTE students to baccalaureate programs

- Through the development of Louisiana Career Pathways (programs of study) and enhanced career guidance/career counseling activities, CTE students will have a vision regarding the transition to a baccalaureate program.

Support for career and technical student organizations

- Secondary career and technical student organizations are supported through specially designed contracts of endeavors.
- Served as judges and assisted in recruiting others as judges for CTSO State competitions.
- LDE held a three-day leadership institute for state officers of all CTSOs.
- Perkins Leadership funds support a staff person, operations and the statewide student training activities led by the Louisiana Skills USA.
- Leadership funds also support the activities of Phi Beta Lambda (postsecondary student organization for business students) through contracted services.

Support to improve or develop new career and technical education courses and initiatives

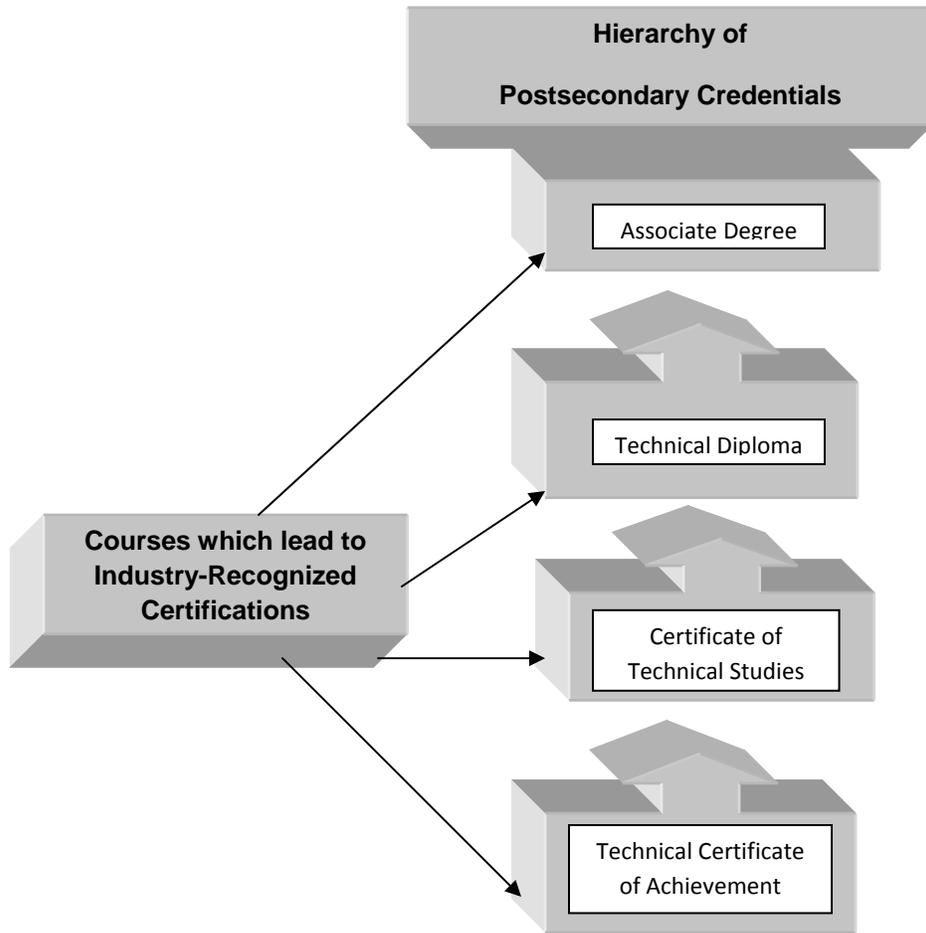
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- Developed new Agriscience Education Model Course Guidelines and aligned the guidelines to the academic Grade Level Expectations
- Standardized curricula on a statewide basis in the four craft areas of carpentry, electrical, HVAC, and welding
- Worked collaboratively with the LCTCS and Business/Industry representative to initiate an Industrial Maintenance curriculum with associated certifications and dual enrollment opportunities
- Worked collaboratively with the National Emergency Medical Services regarding the start up of an EMT-Basic instructors course for secondary instructors
- In collaboration with the Louisiana Chemical Association, LCTCS formed a partnership to improve the Process Technology Programs. This partnership continues through work with Career Builders to enhance the enrollment of women in this non-traditional program.
- At the postsecondary level, leadership funds are supporting the pilot activities for the development of adult learning activities and credit for prior learning in CTE areas.

Progress in Developing and Implementing Technical Skills Assessments

The state of Louisiana's secondary and postsecondary institutions has not developed a system utilizing technical skill assessments aligned with industry-recognized standards. The partner agencies involved with workforce training along with the educational boards made the decision to utilize industry-recognized certifications where appropriate. This is in addition to those programs and occupations that have licensing requirements. For programs that use IBCs or standards-based assessments, there is a high level of confidence that these assessments are valid and reliable.

Note: The Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Policy 2.13 – Program Accreditation set the standards for program accreditation. The link to the complete text of the Academic Policy 2.13 is <http://regents.la.gov/Academic/PP/Policies/2-13.html>.

Through the CTE programs offered through LCTCS programs, students have an opportunity to earn a Technical Certificate of Achievement, Certificate of Technical Studies, Diploma or an Associate degree as part of the effort to support Career and Technical Education. These credentials allow CTE adults and students to move in and out of the school and/or work continuum as the credentials listed build upon each other. These credentials offer students the opportunity to acquire IBCs (See the Figure below).



Within the five years covered by the State Plan, the LCTCS will have determined the appropriate strategies to increase the percentage of CTE programs in which results from IBCs/licensure exams/standardized assessments are available to the State for reporting purposes. In this strategy, LCTCS will work directly with the industry organizations, foundations, and companies that sponsor IBCs that are widely used across a variety of CTE programs to obtain this information.

In working with providers of IBCs, LCTCS will evaluate the possible use of a “release form” that would be signed by an adult community college student to allow the release of the student’s IBC scores to the college or to LCTCS for reporting purposes. The option of a voluntary data release form would be a means to satisfy the confidentiality requirements of the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Postsecondary Technical Skill Assessment Progress

- During the 2008-2009 program year, the State will work with the local eligible recipients to inventory the CTE programs where students may earn an IBC(s) or they are required to take a licensure exam to exhibit competency in an area.
- CAR reporting year 2008-2009 skill attainment will be reported utilizing program completion as the measurement methodology.
- CAR reporting year 2009-2010, the state will report on the passage rate of licensure exams for the programs identified (i.e., Nursing, Allied Health). Licensure results are reported back to the institutions for graduates. NCCER certification results may also be attainable this reporting period.

Secondary Technical Skill Assessment Progress

- LDE established the use of IBCs in the seven Louisiana Career Pathways (LCP) identified for authorized use of Perkins funds. Using IBC’s as a basis, the LDE created an “IBC Matrix” that is approved for use in each of the State’s secondary CTE programs. For each CTE program area, identifies the “certifying agency” and the measurement approach.
- For programs that use IBCs or standards-based assessment, there is a high level of confidence that these assessments are valid and reliable.
- For programs that do not currently offer an IBC or use externally developed standards-based assessments, LDE is exploring alternative means to measure Technical Skill Attainment that will be valid and reliable.

Implementation of State Program Improvement Plans

Louisiana submitted a one-year Transition Plan effective for program year 2007-2008. States submitting a transition plan and then a five-year plan were not required to report on all of the indicators, therefore an improvement plan was not necessary.

- Secondary and Postsecondary institutions reported on enrollment of participants and concentrators

Student Enrollment of CTE Participants

Population	Secondary Students	Postsecondary Students	Adult Students	Totals
Grand Total	132,814	28,717	18,581	180,112
GENDER				
Male	62,539	9,672	9,567	81,778
Female	70,275	19,045	9,014	98,334

Student Enrollment of CTE Concentrators

Population	Total
Secondary	
Female	13,243
Male	15,628
Total	28,871
Postsecondary (CC, TCC, Univ)	
Female	11,024
Male	5,078
Total	16,102
Adult (LTC)	
Female	4,443
Male	3,806
Total	8,249
Grand Total	53,222

- Louisiana’s largest cluster was Health& Science with a grand 14,502 concentrators.
- Business Management and Administration has a grand 11,302 concentrators.
- Education & Training had the smallest number of concentrators – 639.
- There were no concentrators identified in Finance and Government & Public Administration.
- Secondary had no concentrators in the Law, Public Safety & Services Cluster. Postsecondary and Adult identified 1,013 concentrators.
- Secondary identified 916 concentrators in the Marketing, Sales, & Security Cluster, while Postsecondary identified one concentrator and Adult identified no concentrators within this cluster.

Secondary Core Indicators of Performance

- Secondary reported on the required Core Indicators of Performance – 1S1, 2S1, and 4S1
 - 1S1 – Attainment of Academic Skills (Reading/Lang. Arts) – 69.08% (exceeds)
 - 2S1 – Attainment of Academic Skills (Math) – 70.61% (exceeds)
 - 4S1 – Student Graduation Rate – 92.02% (exceeds)

Implementation of Local Program Improvement Plans

It was not necessary to implement local program improvements plan for data reported on the secondary level for program year 2007-2008. All recipients achieved at least 90% or better.

Postsecondary eligible recipients did not have to submit accountability data for this program-reporting year.

Tech Prep Grant Award Information

Louisiana made the decision to consolidate the Tech Prep program funds available under Title II into the Basic Grant.

Attachment A

Eligible Recipients

Secondary and Postsecondary

Postsecondary Eligible Recipients

Baton Rouge Community College
Bossier Parish Community College
Delgado Community College
Nunez Community College
Fletcher Technical Community College
Sowela Technical Community College
Southern University – Shreveport
Northwestern State University
Nicholls State University
Louisiana State University – Alexandria
Louisiana State University – Eunice
Louisiana Tech University
Southeastern Louisiana University

Bossier
Caddo
Calcasieu
Caldwell
Cameron
Catahoula
Claiborne
Concordia
DeSoto
East Baton Rouge
East Carroll
East Feliciana
Evangeline
Franklin
Grant
Iberia
Iberville
Jackson
Jefferson
Jefferson Davis
Lafayette
Lafourche
LaSalle
Lincoln
Livingston
Madison
Morehouse
Natchitoches
Orleans
Ouachita
Plaquemines
Point Coupee
Rapides

Red River
Richland
Sabine
St. Bernard
St. Charles
St. Helena
St. James
St. John the Baptist
St. Landry
St. Martin
St. Mary
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Tensas
Terrebonne
Union
Vermilion
Vernon
Washington
Webster
West Baton Rouge
West Carroll
West Feliciana
Winn
Central Community Schools
City of Monroe
City of Bogalusa
Zachary Community Schools
City of Baker
Recovery School Board
Special School District

Secondary Eligible Recipients

Parish/City School Boards

Acadia
Allen
Ascension
Assumption
Avoyelles
Beauregard
Bienville

