

CTE State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Work Group

3/27/12 Discussion – Sharon Enright and Keith Brown (SLDS State Support Team Member assigned to CTE Work Group)

SLDS is a policy project more than a technology project. However, the federal SLDS grant project has been on the technology/infrastructure component.

The purpose of a SLDS is to provide answers to education questions – accountability, improvement, research and more. Some CTE questions:

- What CTE questions do we need to answer with a SLDS?
- What CTE research do we need to conduct with a SLDS?
- What CTE data do we need for accountability purposes in a SLDS?
- What improvements in CTE education and training do we want to be made via a SLDS?
- What CTE “use cases” are there with a SLDS? [Perkins accountability/reporting is an example of a use case.]

When we know the CTE questions, then what data elements are needed in a SLDS to answer the questions?

As states are developing their SLDSs, they are using CEDS to determine the data elements that will be in their SLDSs. If the data elements needed for CTE accountability, improvement and research are not in the CEDS, states are not as likely to include data elements needed by CTE.

Additionally – if all states adopt the CEDS data standards for CTE, then CTE data can become “standardized” and comparable across the country.

CTE SLDS Work Group – A focus on the Common Education Data Standards (CEDS) initiative will provide CTE with tremendous benefits. (The most bang for the buck!)

Original CEDS Work Groups – for the development of Versions 1.0 and 2.0 – these three groups generally operated independently:

- Early childhood
- K12
- Postsecondary

New CEDS Work Groups are in the works for the development of Version 3.0 – these three groups must operate cross-functionally:

- Career-technical education (CTE) – Cuts across K12, postsecondary and workforce.
- Adult literacy – Cuts across postsecondary and workforce.
- Workforce – Cuts across K12, postsecondary and CTE.

CEDS Version 3 work is starting very soon:

- New work groups – Meetings in April and May 2012 (?)
- Face-to-face meeting of all work groups – late June 2012 (?)