

# OVAE *Next Steps Work Group*

Office of Vocational and Adult Education  
Division of Academic and Technical Education  
Accountability and Performance Branch

---

## NEXT STEPS WORK GROUP CONFERENCE CALL

February 5, 2009 | 2:00 – 3:00 P.M. (Eastern Time)

Host: Jim Schoelkopf, MPR Associates

Chairs: Sharon Enright, Ohio | Kathy Wilkins, Montana | Dennis Fiscus, Arizona

Call number: (866) 390-5250 Access code: 5707853

### AGENDA

2:00	Welcome and Overview of Call	Jim Schoelkopf
2:05	OVAE Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Guidance for state plan revisions</li></ul>	OVAE Staff
2:15	Technical Skills Sub-Group Status	Sharon Enright; Gabriela Borcoman
2:25	PCRN Sub-Group Status	Kathy Wilkins
2:30	Negotiating Performance Levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Discussion for setting reasonable Perkins performance levels that accommodate variations and revisions to standards, assessments and the timing of the NCLB academic assessments</li></ul>	Sharon Enright and OVAE Staff
3:00	Adjourn	

**Following the January 2009 NSWG call, Sharon Miller had the following information forwarded to State CTE Directors:**

I am pleased to update you on two issues that arose during last week's Next Steps Workgroup (NSWG) conference call regarding our office's upcoming round of Perkins IV performance level negotiations with States. This same message is being sent to state career and technical education (CTE) directors.

The first issue pertains to the number of program years for which we will be negotiating performance levels. PLEASE NOTE that we have received Department approval to negotiate performance levels for years three and four ONLY (not for years three through six as originally indicated on the call).

The second issue pertains to whether a State can "renegotiate" one or more of its year two performance levels with the Department. PLEASE NOTE that the Secretary, in order to ensure an orderly transition to the new accountability system required under Perkins IV, will allow a State to propose changes to one or more of its year two performance levels if the State did not have baseline data or used estimated baseline data at the time it negotiated those performance levels with the Department, but now has actual baseline data upon which to negotiate more realistic and achievable performance levels. Please note that this is an exception to the Department's policy, and, in future years, barring unanticipated circumstances, this Department does not foresee any circumstances under which it would allow a State to revise its performance levels for a program year that has already begun. The Department is considering whether it would be useful to issue non-regulatory guidance on this issue.

We hope these two actions will foster more effective and efficient performance level negotiations.

### NEXT CALL

**March 5, 2009 | 2:00-3:00 PM ET**  
Call Number: 866-390-5250 | Call ID: 5707853