

Up-to-Date with DATE

Important News and Information from OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE)

November/December 2007

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Message from the Director

On behalf of the DATE staff and entire Office of Vocational and Adult Education, we wish you and yours a warm and wonderful holiday season! Following this edition, Up-to-Date with DATE staff we will take a short vacation and be back in the new year with the latest news and information from our division! Meanwhile, if there is anything that you need—especially as you are preparing your FY 2006-07 Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) and new Perkins IV Five-Year State Plan—please do not hesitate to contact your Perkins State liaison or Regional Accountability Specialist.

One gentle reminder...only 18 working days until the CAR is due!

Sharon Lee Miller
Director, DATE

Discretionary Grant Project Directors to Meet in June 2008

DATE will host a meeting—tentatively scheduled for June 2008—for project directors of the newly-awarded Perkins IV discretionary grants under the Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP), Native American Career and Technical Education Program (NACTEP), and Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institutions Program (TCPCTIP). Among the topics to be discussed at the meeting will be performance outcomes, measures for assessing the project's progress and results, frequency and method for monitoring, opportunities for individualized technical assistance from DATE, specific regulatory or statutory requirements affecting the grantee's performance, and project activity or budget issues or concerns, such as key personnel, indirect cost, cost-sharing or matching, changes in project activities due to changes in requested amounts.

Stay tuned for further information on the meeting to be announced early in 2008 or feel free to contact Nancy Essey, coordinator for the discretionary grantee project directors' meeting, at nancy.essey@ed.gov.

Perkins Monitoring Team Visits

DATE's monitoring team will visit Virginia during the week of December 3-7 and New Hampshire in early January 2008. The purpose of the monitoring visits is three-fold: to uphold the department's fiduciary responsibility to ensure grantees' compliance with the Perkins legislation; to protect against waste, fraud, and abuse; and to provide technical assistance to help States and local grantees improve their Perkins administration, implementation, and accountability systems.

For information on upcoming monitoring visits, feel free to contact Len Lintner, lead for the Perkins monitoring team, at len.lintner@ed.gov

Data Reporting for the Perkins IV Transition Year (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008)

During the November 20 conference call that OVAE Deputy Assistant Secretary Pat Stanley hosted with State community college directors, DATE received a question about whether enrollment data for all students and data for tech prep students would be required as part of each State's December 31, 2008, Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) submission, which covers the transition year from July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008. The following answer was given:

- Enrollment data – Each State must submit enrollment data for CTE participants and concentrators for the Perkins IV transition year.
- Data required under section 113(b) for tech prep students – Each State must report disaggregated data for secondary tech prep students on the three Perkins IV core indicators of performance that are tied to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act: academic attainment in reading/language arts; academic attainment in mathematics; and graduation rates. These are the only three indicators for which a State that submitted a transition plan (which every State did) had to negotiate performance levels with the Department and for which each State must report data to the Department for the Perkins IV transition year.
- Data required under section 203(e) for tech prep students – Each State that chose to submit a one-year transition plan (again, which every State did) was not required to negotiate performance levels with its local consortia on the indicators of performance described in section 203(e) of Perkins IV for the first program year covered by Perkins IV (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008). Therefore, States will not be required to gather and report data the section 203(e) indicators for the Perkins IV transition year.

Invitation to Get Involved in the STEM Transitions Project

As many of you are aware, DATE recently provided funding for a project entitled, “STEM Transitions: Enhancing Mathematics and Science Rigor Through Evidence-Based Curriculum Projects” as part of the League for Innovation in the Community College’s (League) College and Career Transitions Initiative (CCTI). The Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) was selected through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process to assist the League in implementing the STEM transitions project.

As a first step, the transitions project team launched the project Website at <http://www.stemtransitions.org/>. In addition to providing general project information, the Website contains information and an online application for community college faculty to become involved in the development of the curriculum-based projects.

DATE encourages community college faculty members to submit applications. Meanwhile, we invite you to visit the Website, share your comments, and spread the news to others!

DATE Establishes Two IPA Positions

To continue our collaborations with States in planning and implementing our national activity projects, DATE is utilizing the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) to bring individuals with State and/or local experience to the department through a cost sharing agreement for a temporary (one-year) assignment. The IPA process also will benefit participating States by giving their staff an opportunity to experience and learn first hand about the inner workings of federal programs.

The first two “IPAs” are Dr. Ray Davis from the South Carolina Department of Education and Steve Frank from the Texas Education Agency. Ray and Ed will be assigned to DATE’s College and Career Transitions Branch led by Scott Hess. Ray and Ed also will have opportunities to work on issues related to Perkins administration and accountability, as well as OVAE’s community college initiatives. Ray will arrive in early December and Steve will arrive in January.

If you are interested in having a staff member from your State serve as an IPA, please contact Scott Hess at scott.hess@ed.gov.

FY 2004-05 Perkins Report to Congress Completed

The Annual Report to Congress for FY 2004-05 under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (Perkins III) has been finalized and is now at the printer. The process of writing and producing the report took longer this year as DATE sought changes in the quality of the graphics and individual state profiles. As a result, the report has a more professional and appealing look. Each State will receive an individual copy as soon as the report is sent to Congress (anticipated by the end of the year). The report also will be posted on the OVAE Website and the Peer Collaborative Resource Network (PCRN).

Spotlight on South Carolina’s Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

This month the spotlight is on South Carolina’s Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (OCTC), a school doing innovative work on career pathways. SC’s CTE State Director Bob Couch described it this way: “OCTC has made a major contribution as a pilot site to develop a seamless 9-14 curriculum and career pathway system with the K-12 educational partners in their service delivery area. The system includes an electronic and transportable Individual Graduation Plan for students in grades 9-12 that can transfer into Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College with articulated and dual enrollment options and opportunities.”

For more information on this program, visit OCTC’s Web site at: <http://www.octech.edu>.

Mark Your Calendar!

Event Title/Sponsor	Dates/Location	Contact Information
<i>Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Convention and Career Tech Expo – ACTE (OVAE will be conducting a few sessions at this conference)</i>	Las Vegas, NV December 13-15, 2007	http://www.acteonline.org/
Government Career Cluster, National Advisory Committee Webinar (sponsored by the States’ Career Clusters Initiative)	January 24, 2008 1:30 pm CST - or - January 25, 2008 9:30 am CST	Scott Hess scott.hess@ed.gov
Hospitality/Tourism Career Cluster, National Advisory Committee Webinar (sponsored by the States’ Career Clusters Initiative)	January 24, 2008 9:30 am CST - or - January 25, 2008 1:30 pm CST	Scott Hess scott.hess@ed.gov