



To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	January 23, 2020
SUBJECT:	Perkins V State Plan Public Comment
CATEGORY:	Public Comment
NEXT STEPS:	Provide stakeholder feedback

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) requests public comment on the state plan for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, also referred to as Perkins V.

On July 31, 2018, the president signed the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) into law. Perkins V includes key changes that will impact the implementation of career and technology education (CTE) programs, such as an added emphasis on programs of study, the addition of a Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment, and the introduction new program quality indicators. The Texas Perkins V four-year state plan, addressing all of the requirements of the Act, will be submitted to the US Department of Education upon approval by the Governor and State Board of Education in spring 2020.

Perkins V maintains a focus on CTE program improvement, data, and accountability. Perkins V highlights include:

- Alignment of CTE programs with high-wage, in-demand, and high-skill occupations in Texas
- Provision of funding and opportunities for students to earn credentials (industry-based certifications, Level I and II certificates, associate and bachelor's degrees)
- Reduction of the burden of CTE reporting structures at the district level
- Provision of opportunities for work-based learning in rural, suburban, and urban settings
- Construction, support and promotion of meaningful and effective CTE cross sector collaboration in Texas across secondary, postsecondary and employer institutions.
- Equitable access to postsecondary CTE programs and credentials through multiple on and off-ramps for all students, with particular attention to Perkins special populations.

Stakeholders are encouraged to review the state plan and provide comments. The TEA has developed an electronic form to help stakeholders submit public comment. The state plan and electronic form can be found at the following website: <https://tea.texas.gov/cte/>

The public comment period will open tomorrow, January 23, 2020 and will close on March 17, 2020. If you have additional questions regarding the public comment process, contact Ryan Merritt at ryan.merritt@tea.texas.gov.