

Use of Perkins Funds for Career Technical Student Organizations

The CDE continues to recognize and support the role and value of CTSOs in providing quality leadership development training for students related to the CTE courses in which they are enrolled.

The Perkins IV defines a CTSO as “an organization of individuals enrolled in a career and technical education program that engages in career and technical activities as an integral part of the instructional program. Such organizations may have state and national units that aggregate the work and purposes of instruction in career technical education at the local level”. California recognizes and supports six CTSOs:

- Emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management (DECA),
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA),
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA),
- Future Farmers of America (FFA),
- Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), and
- Skills USA (SkillsUSA).

Examples of Allowable Expenditures for Career Technical Student Organizations

- Chapter affiliation fees for special population students only.
- Student travel (both in-state and out-of-state) and lodging for special populations
- CTSO Advisor travel (both in-state and out-of-state), lodging, and per diem while supervising students participating in approved CTSO activities.
- Instructional supplies and materials, such as chapter handbooks, leadership development materials, and official recordkeeping handbooks.
- Equipment that is appropriate to the CTSO program and that benefits all students in the class.
- Student and Advisor CTSO issued uniforms required for attendance at CTSO sponsored events. Uniforms must remain the property of the CTSO chapter.

Examples of Non-Allowable Expenditures

- Food and registration for any students not a member of special populations.
- Amusement park tickets, awards, and any entertainment costs.

Career Technical Student Organization Affiliation and CTE Pathway Focus

While school districts are free to affiliate with any of the six state approved CTSOs, best practices and high quality CTE should guide LEAs to affiliate with the CTSO that best aligns with the industry sector and CTE Program/Pathway Student Learning Outcomes. While many CTSOs cover multiple industry sectors, which allows for multiple pathways to affiliate with the same CTSO, this is not always a best practice for the delivery of high quality CTE.

Student leadership activities other than CTSOs may be considered for Perkins IV funding in the future. The CDE and CTE leaders around the state are working to identify alternatives to CTSOs and may make Perkins IV funding available for those activities that align to the elements of high quality CTE programs and focus on the development of leadership skills in CTE students.

CTEIG below:

Allowable and Non-allowable Expenditures

- A. Allowable Activities and Costs - Funds provided under the CTEIG grant may be used for, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Purchase and/or develop evidence-based, standards-based curriculum and instructional materials that focus on career technical pathway courses through a collaborative effort with secondary, postsecondary, and industry. This could include the development of updated or new career technical pathway courses, articulated and dual credit courses, curriculum to support leadership and work-based learning, and/or the development of curriculum and activities that lead to industry-recognized certifications or credentials;
 2. Professional development to enhance teaching and learning;
 3. Training and planning meetings between district Advisory Committee personnel, including counselors, parents, college faculty, and business leaders, to support program sustainability and build local and regional awareness on the benefits of having such programs;
 4. Purchase of equipment and materials needed to maintain industry standards;
 5. Transportation and other expenses that enable leadership and work-based learning activities, including after-school, extended day, and out-of-school opportunities;
 6. Food and refreshments for conference travel, student field trips and special events, and working Advisory Committee and partnership meetings; and
 7. Pupil support services.
- B. Non-allowable Activities and Costs - Funds provided under the CTEIG grant may not be used to:
1. Supplant existing funding or efforts, including costs otherwise necessary to operate a school or program without this grant;
 2. Acquire equipment for administrative or personal use;
 3. Purchase furniture (e.g., bookcases, chairs, desks, file cabinets, tables) unless it is an integral part of an equipment workstation or to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities;
 4. Purchase facilities;
 5. Remodel facilities not directly related to accessibility to CTE pathways instruction or services for students with disabilities; and
 6. Travel outside of the United States.