



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Indiana School Superintendents, Principals, and CTE Directors  
**FROM:** PJ McGrew, Executive Director, Governor's Workforce Cabinet  
**DATE:** Thursday, May 30, 2019  
**RE:** State-level Alignment of Career and Technical Education

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**Summary:** The Governor's Workforce Cabinet (Cabinet) is excited to announce that effective July 1, the state will centralize career and technical education (CTE) under the Carl D. Perkins program. After collaborating with representatives from various state agencies, including Department of Education (DOE), Indiana Association of CTE Districts, institutions of higher education, and employers, the consensus was that current CTE structure is unnecessarily complex. Moving CTE functions to the Cabinet ensures that all statewide entities involved in CTE have a voice in determining the new state plan required by the federal reauthorization of Perkins. **Schools should expect no interruptions to their work** as current DOE CTE staff transition to the Cabinet. Schools should maintain "business as usual," continuing their great work of offering maximum opportunities to Indiana's students. Ultimately, this change means a more efficient use of time and money at the state level, resulting in better service and resources for the local level.

**Anticipated changes to the current state structure:** Until the passage of HEA 1002, CTE authority has been segmented amongst four agencies: State Board of Education managed policymaking for secondary CTE, DOE had oversight of the implementation of secondary programs, Department of Workforce Development administered postsecondary CTE funding and programs, and the Commission for Higher Education assisted with designing postsecondary programs and creating a crosswalk of secondary to postsecondary coursework. Each of the state agencies only had partial responsibility for CTE, which created misalignment and redundancy of funding. This fractured approach to CTE has created disorganization and inefficiency in how our state carries out these crucial programs, stymying options for students and perpetuating an unnecessarily complex system. To allow for better alignment of services and funding, the Cabinet plans to merge these siloed work strands.

Yesterday, I met with Dr. McCormick and her team to discuss how to collaboratively transition CTE activity and staff from the DOE to the Cabinet. Beginning on July 1 with the new fiscal year, the Cabinet will accept responsibility for CTE policies and operations in order to provide Hoosier students a more seamless transition from high school to opportunities after high school. Shifting the responsibility for CTE to the Cabinet provides opportunity for more input from across the state. Primary and secondary education, career and technical education, employers, workforce development, and higher education are all members of the Cabinet, which allows for greater collaboration between different sectors and perspectives.

Transitioning the charge of CTE to the Cabinet helps ensure that secondary and postsecondary education, government services, and employers are all invested in preparing for the future of work and preparing Hoosiers for successful lives. As the Cabinet begins its work on the state's next strategic plan, it will enable more coordinated efforts across a number of federal programs, such as Perkins, Adult Education, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation, in our state.

**Continuity at the local level:** As the state's responsibility for CTE changes, programs in our schools and CTE centers will continue to provide our students with great educational opportunities. Funding will continue to go to CTE classes and programs at both the secondary and postsecondary levels. Through a more collaborative approach in our government, we can ensure all students have meaningful options after high school.