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May 2, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eligible Recipients of Section 131 (Secondary) and Section 132 (Postsecondary) Perkins

IV Federal Career and Technical Education Funds Authorized by Public Law 109-270

FROM: Ms. Loretta Costin, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education

Dr. Willis Holcombe, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges Dr. Frances Haithcock, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools

SUBJECT: Perkins IV Mid-Reauthorization Stakeholder Review

On December 13, 2010, the Florida Department of Education issued a memorandum to school districts and Florida colleges inviting nominations of interested persons to serve on Perkins IV Mid-Reauthorization Stakeholder Review Committees. The Occupational Education Standing Committee (OESC) (representing colleges) and the Florida Leadership for Career and Technical Education (FLCTE) (representing school districts) received nomination forms and organized membership of each stakeholder review committee. These committees reviewed current state plan policies and practices related to the following three areas:

- 1) **Postsecondary allocation formula** and the current practices for identification of postsecondary economically disadvantaged CTE students this committee was composed of 16 representatives with equal representation from school district postsecondary providers and college postsecondary providers.
- 2) Current measurement approach for technical skill attainment (2S1, 1P1, 1A1) this committee was composed of 16 representatives with representation from school district secondary and postsecondary providers and college postsecondary providers.
- 3) *Performance-based incentive funds* (no policy currently established in the state plan) this committee was composed of 16 representatives with representation from school district secondary and postsecondary providers and college postsecondary providers to determine if the state should consider awarding incentive grants in future program years for exceeding local adjusted levels of performance.

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During the months of February, March and April, the three committees were convened and recommendations were made to the State Steering Committee. The State Steering Committee is represented by Loretta Costin, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education; Dr. Willis Holcombe, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges; and Dr. Frances Haithcock, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools. A summary of the committee recommendations is presented below.

TECHNICAL SKILL ATTAINMENT COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS

This committee, composed of school district and college representation, met via conference call on March 2, 2011. This committee was charged with reviewing the current measurement approach for technical skill attainment (2S1, 1A1, and 1P1). This Perkins accountability measure is designed to measure the extent to which career and technical education (CTE) students are leaving CTE programs (high school programs, certificate programs, degree programs) with validated technical skills. For secondary and non-college credit certificate programs, technical skill attainment is validated through attainment of Occupational Completion Points (OCPs) or attainment of a valid and reliable industry certification/licensure/3rd party assessment aligned with an applicable CTE program. For college credit certificate and degree programs, technical skill attainment is validated through attainment of a valid and reliable industry certification/licensure/3rd party assessment aligned with an applicable CTE program or achievement of 75% of program hours with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. The Perkins IV State Plan identifies the 2010-2011 program year as the last year for reporting of OCPs and 75% of program hours with a GPA of 2.5 or higher as a validation of technical skill attainment.

The following voting issues were presented to all committee members:

- 1. Should 2010-2011 reporting year be the last year in which OCPs and 75% of program hours with a GPA of 2.5 or higher be accepted as a validation of technical skill attainment?
- 2. Should the state accept OCPs and 75% of program hours with a GPA of 2.5 or higher as a valid and reliable measure of technical skill attainment only when a particular CTE program does not have a linkage to an applicable certification/licensure/assessment?
- 3. Should the state maintain its current approach for measuring technical skill attainment and allow for continued flexibility through the end of the 2012-2013 year?

The committee unanimously made the recommendation that the state maintain its current approach for measuring technical skill attainment and allow for continued flexibility through the end of the 2012-2013 year.

Recommendation Summary: Extend the current technical skill attainment requirements through 2012-13.

PERFORMANCE-BASED INCENTIVE FUNDING COMMITTEE- RECOMMENDATIONS

This committee, composed of school district and college representation, met via conference call on February 24, 2011. This committee was charged with determining whether or not the state should consider awarding incentive grants in future program years for exceeding local adjusted levels of performance. The committee unanimously agreed not to make any recommendations for the 2011-2012 program year since there was insufficient time to gather and study data, design a funding methodology and run funding simulations. The committee unanimously agreed to continue to study the issue over the next program year. This committee will reconvene in May.

Recommendation Summary: Continue to study during the next program year

PERKINS POSTSECONDARY ALLOCATION FUNDING COMMITTEE - RECOMMENDATIONS

This committee, composed of postsecondary school district and college representation, was charged with reviewing the postsecondary allocation formula which distributes funds to each local eligible agency (district, college). The committee met four times via conference call to discuss the current methodology and alternative proposals. The committee was presented with two alternative proposals from Miami-Dade College and Sarasota County. The committee members agreed to a written ballot procedure on the alternatives with a simple majority vote leading to a committee recommendation to change the current methodology. The following voting issues were presented to all committee members:

Voting Issue 1: Should college students classified by the institution as "Awaiting Limited Access" and only enrolled in an A&P (advanced and professional) course be included in the calculation?

Voting Results: 15 members voting NO, 1 member voting YES

Voting Issue 2: Should full-time equivalencies (FTE), instead of the current headcount method, be used for the allocation formula?

Voting Results: 8 members voting NO, 8 members voting YES

Based on these results, no change to the current methodology is recommended by the committee.

Recommendation Summary: Continue the current allocation methodology

Once the committee recommendations were received, the State Steering Committee met in mid-April to review and consider each recommendation. All three recommendations were accepted by the State Steering Committee. The first recommendation by the Performance-Based Incentives Funding Committee to continue to study the concept during the next program year does not necessitate a change to the State Plan. The second recommendation by the Technical Skill Attainment Committee to extend the current technical skill attainment requirements through 2012-13 will require a revision to the State Plan. The Division of Career and Adult Education will submit that revision to the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). The third recommendation by the Postsecondary Allocation Funding Committee to continue the current funding methodology does not necessitate a change to the State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Chancellor Costin at Loretta.Costin@fldoe.org or Chancellor Holcombe at Will.Holcombe@fldoe.org or Chancellor Haithcock at Frances.Haithcock@fldoe.org.

Thank you.

LC/WH/FH/kt

cc: Florida College System Presidents
District School Superintendents