



Plant the Moon
Plant Mars
CHALLENGE

Understanding CTE (Career and Technical Education) Funding

Plant The Moon Challenge

The Plant the Moon Challenge (PTMC) is a great opportunity for understanding and implementing scientific concepts. Because of the STEM connection PTMC also qualifies for CTE funding to help support teams taking part in the challenge. Following is more information on CTE funds and some quick guidance on securing this funding to help you *Plant The Moon*. **It is important to note that CTE funding is for high school and post-secondary students.**

Where does CTE (Career and Technical Education) Funding Come From?

Both state and federal governments provide support for CTE. The vast majority of CTE funding for public high schools and community colleges comes from state apportionment funds. Federal funding sources, such as the Perkins Act, support CTE in high schools and community colleges.

What is CTE in school examples?

Examples of General CTE Courses include Architectural Design; Business Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality; Exploring Computer Science; Healthcare Analysis; and The Act of Improvisation, as well as Project Lead the Way courses (ex. Introduction to Engineering Design, Computer Integrated Manufacturing). CTE money can also be used for projects that enhance learning for specific career paths. ***The Plant The Moon Challenge falls into this category.***

How can CTE benefit the student?

CTE provides students with career and academic skills and soft skills needed for the modern workplace, such as critical thinking; communication; teamwork; citizenship, integrity, ethical leadership; research tools; creativity; and innovation.

What is the Perkins Fund?

Each year under the Perkins statute, Congress appropriates approximately 1.4 billion dollars in State formula grant funds under Title I (Basic State Grants) to help develop the academic knowledge and technical and employability skills of secondary and postsecondary education students.



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What is the Perkins program?

Federal act established to improve career-technical education programs, integrate academic and career-technical instruction, serve special populations, and meet gender equity needs.

What are three things CTE gives students?

Career technical education (CTE) provides students and adults with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers and develop skills they will use throughout their careers.

What does CTE mean for teachers?

Career and technical education (CTE) is the practice of teaching specific career skills to students in middle school, high school, and post-secondary institutions. CTE is split into 16 career clusters that apply to different high-demand careers:

1. Agriculture, food and natural resources
2. Architecture and construction
3. Arts, A/V technology and communications
4. Business management and administration
5. Education and training
6. Finance
7. Government and public administration
8. Health Science
9. Hospitality and tourism
10. Human services
11. Information technology
12. Law, public safety, corrections and security
13. Manufacturing
14. Marketing
15. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics
16. Transportation, distribution and logistics

What can Carl Perkins funds be used for?

The Carl Perkins Grant provides federal funding to states to improve both secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs.



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What can Perkins funds not be used for?

Perkins cannot fund items such as banners, mugs, T-shirts, pencils, and pamphlets to promote CTE programs. Although these items may be beneficial to promote CTE programs, they are expenses that are not the best use of funds to improve programs.

About Perkins V

Perkins V is the largest federal investment in CTE. States apply to the federal Department of Education under this legislation, and the DOE allocates money to those states. Each state distributes the money it receives to school districts and postsecondary institutions. As a CTE educator or decision-maker, you can and should apply to receive part of your state's Perkins V distribution!

Process and Timeline for Applying for Perkins V

Each state has its own unique application form, process, and requirements to receive Perkins V funds. Consult your [state education department's CTE office](#) for deadlines, information, and application materials. *When applying for CTE funding it must be stipulated that you intend to use a specified amount of the funds for the Plant The Moon Challenge and the application is usually submitted by the end of April for the following school year.* **The Plant The Moon Challenge qualifies under most state's CTE funding but you should review the guidelines with your school or district CTE chairperson.**

States must send the federal Department of Education a list of goals for the grant, their process for approving local recipients, and strategies for special populations. The federal Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) website has all of these materials for each state.

Read about how the state plans to spend this money and what they expect of recipients. Note any requirements in terms of program assessment, which you may have to fulfill to apply for the grant and if you receive money. There may also be requirements for consulting with educators, administrators, parents, students, or community representatives as part of your application.

Each state [determines its allocations differently](#). They may allocate according to the number of CTE students or the actual cost of running these programs.