

Up-to-Date with DATE

Important News and Information from OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE)
March 2009

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Message from the Director

DATE has lost a dear colleague and friend, Alan Fjellheim. Alan passed away on March 11 following a long and courageous battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Alan was a member of the Perkins monitoring team and worked tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to ensure that "all students," regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or special population, had equal access to career and technical education programs. He reviewed state's policies, procedures, and data on special populations and had a wealth of suggested improvement strategies that he shared with states through the monitoring process. Alan had a contagious laugh, loved a good practical joke, and had a wonderful gift for composing music and playing the piano. Alan was always sure to report back to the Division when a state made Krispy Kreme donuts available to the monitoring team as those were his all-time favorite! If Alan could provide final words of good-bye to you, he would want you to know how much he enjoyed working with each of you and how much he appreciated your commitment and dedication to providing career and technical education for all students across our nation. Please keep Alan and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sharon Lee Miller
Director, DATE

CAR Review Outcome Letters Issued

DATE issued letters to state career and technical education directors last week regarding the outcome of the office's review of state's PY 2007-08 Consolidated Annual Reports (CARs). States have until mid-June to submit missing information and data, and avoid a grant award condition.

For questions regarding the CAR review and outcome letter, please contact Edward Smith at Edward.Smith@ed.gov or 202-245-7602.

Timeline for Negotiations on PY 2009-2010-11 Perkins Performance Levels

DATE has received numerous e-mails and calls for clarification on the process for their negotiations with the states on PY 2009-10 (program year three) and 2010-11 (program year four) Perkins performance levels.

Following are the process steps and timeline:

Process Steps	Timeline
<p>STEP 1. Regional Accountability Specialists (RASs) hold preliminary negotiations with states on their PY 2009-10 and 2010-11 performance levels for each of the Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators.</p> <p><i>The RAS (DATE's contact person for accountability matters, including negotiations with your state) will start negotiations by populating and sending a proposed Final</i></p>	<p>Now through April 20, 2009</p>

<p><i>Agreed Upon Performance Levels (FAUPL) form containing current information on student definitions, measurement approaches, and prior year's performance level and data via e-mail.</i></p>	
<p>STEP 2. States submit their "proposed" PY 2009-10 and 2010-11 performance levels for each of the Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators.</p>	<p>As part of the state's April 20, 2009 submission of information for the July 1, 2009, Perkins grant awards</p>
<p>STEP 3. RASs hold final negotiations with states on their PY 2009-10 and 2010-11 performance levels for each of the Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators.</p> <p><i>Performance levels are considered to be "proposed" until after the RAS and the state have negotiated and agreed on them and they are incorporated by the department into the state's July 1 Perkins grant award notification.</i></p>	<p>April 21-June 15, 2009</p>
<p>STEP 4. If necessary, states submit a revised Proposed Final Agreed Upon Performance Levels (FAUPL) form with PY 2009-10 and 2010-11 performance levels for each of the Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators via e-mail to the RAS.</p>	<p>No later than June 25, 2009</p>
<p>STEP 5. DATE issues each state's July 1, 2009 Perkins grant award notifications, along with the Final Agreed Upon Performance Levels (FAUPL) form with PY 2009-10 and 2010-11 performance levels for each of the Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators.</p> <p><i>At this point, performance levels will be considered to be "final."</i></p>	<p>July 1, 2009</p>

A state may request to a revision to an approved measurement approach or performance level for one or more Perkins IV Sec. 113 (b) core indicators as part of this process. See program memo <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/cte/submit-st-pin-revisns.pdf>.

Next Step Work Group Conference Call Scheduled

The Next Step Work Group (NSWG) has scheduled its next conference call with states on April 2, 2009, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET. The agenda will focus primarily on the draft recommendations of the NSWG race and ethnicity subgroup headed by Chuck Wisely (CA) and the technical skills assessment subgroup headed by Gabriela Borcoman (TX) and Sharon Enright (OH). Call-in information is as follows:

Call Number is 866-390-5250
Call ID Number is 5707853.

For further information, please contact John Haigh at john.haigh@ed.gov.

Have Questions about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act?

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced that \$44 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act or ARRA) funding will be available to states in the next 30 to 45 days to help avert hundreds of thousands of estimated teacher layoffs while driving crucial education improvements and results for students. If you have questions about how the Recovery Act may impact your state and local programs, please visit the federal government's Web site at: <http://www.recovery.gov/> or the department's Web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>.

If you have any questions or concerns about the ARRA's State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, which authorizes local expenditures for career and technical education programs funded under the Perkins Act, please e-mail them to: State.Fiscal.Fund@ed.gov.

Ongoing Collaboration with DOL

DATE staff continues to work collaboratively with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Office of Apprenticeship to develop initiatives and policies that ensure students and young workers obtain the educational and occupational knowledge and skills for high-growth and high-demand occupations. Among current activities, staff members are aligning OA's guidelines standards with the career clusters knowledge and skills statements that are recognized by OVAE and the National Association for state Directors for Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEC) (see <http://www.careerclusters.org/resources/web/ks.php>)

For further information on coordinated efforts between DATE and DOL, please contact Gisela Harkin at: Gisela.harkin@ed.gov

Agricultural Education Update

The National Council for Agricultural Education met March 6-8, 2009, in Alexandria, Virginia to finalize its strategic plan. The Council is made up of agricultural education professional leaders from across the nation, including secondary teachers, postsecondary faculty, teacher educators, business and industry leaders, adult education leaders, and state departments of education supervisors.

The group identified five key strategic priority areas of focus for collaboration and coordination among all the agricultural education professional organizations:

- Clear communication about the relevance of agricultural education to decision makers,
- Identification of agricultural education's role in incorporating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) into instruction,
- Communication of the value of experiential learning,
- The need to provide an adequate supply of highly qualified teachers, and
- The positive promotion, communication, and advertising of agricultural education.

For more information, please contact Steve Brown at Steve.Brown@ed.gov or Larry Case at Larry.Case@ed.gov.

Perkins 2009 Monitoring Schedule

Note: Unless specified with an asterisk (*), monitoring visits will be full, week-long visits.

State	Dates
Louisiana	March 16-20
Tulalip Tribes, WA*	April 27-May 1

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Auburn, WA*	April 27-May 1
Nooksack Indian Tribe, Deming, WA*	April 27-May 1
Minnesota*	May/June date TBD
Missouri	May 18-22
Montana	June 8-12
Oregon	July 13-17
District of Columbia	August 10-14
Nevada	August 24-28
Puerto Rico	September 21-25

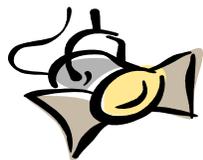
For information on monitoring visits, please contact Ed Smith at edward.smith@ed.gov or Len Lintner at len.lintner@ed.gov.

Mark Your Calendar!

(Note: Events listed below are sponsored or funded by OVAE, or are events at which OVAE will present)

Event Title/Sponsor	Dates/Location	DATE Point of Contact
Quarterly Meeting/ <i>National Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations (NCC-CTSO)</i>	March 25, 2009 Washington, DC	Steve.Brown@ed.gov
2009 Professional Development Institute/ <i>National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity and Women Work!</i>	March 31-april 1, 2009 Washington, DC	Nancy.Brooks@ed.gov or Donna.Vrbka@ed.gov
National Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations	March 25, 2009 Washington, DC	Steve.Brown@ed.gov
2009 Spring State Directors Meeting/ <i>DATE and National Association for State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)</i>	April 10, 2009 Washington, DC	Nancy.Brooks@ed.gov or Donna.Vrbka@ed.gov
7 th Annual Career Clusters Institute/ <i>NASDCTEc</i>	June 15-17, 2009 Fort Worth, TX	Ellen.Holland@ed.gov

2009 National Career Pathways Network Convention	September 30-October 3, 2009	Ellen.Holland@ed.gov
ACTE 2009 Convention/ <i>Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)</i>	November 19-21, 2009 Nashville, TN	Scott.Hess@ed.gov



Spotlight on Effective Practices!

Last fall Virginia's Governor Timothy Kaine launched Commonwealth Scholars, a State Scholars Initiative (SSI) program with the goal of achieving two objectives: to engage business organizations and leaders to promote the importance of a rigorous course of study in high school, and to encourage middle and high school students to take a more rigorous course of study to prepare them more adequately for college or workplace success.

Virginia program staff identified and monitored successful practices in 18 school divisions. Aware that the business community is vital to the future success of education, state leadership accelerated progress to transition students in the program to the Virginia community college system where they will work to replicate a successful outreach model. The ultimate goal is that all 23 community colleges and their workforce services divisions will engage and train business leaders for presentations in eighth grade classrooms in 132 school divisions by 2010.

More information will become available at www.wiche.edu/statescholars and Virginia's Web site at: <http://vcef.net/>. You may also contact Betsy McClearn, SSI state director, at betsymcclearn@aol.com and 540.529.3921.

SSI's February 2009 Newsletter focuses on the wide variety of SSI students served, profiling 16 student scholars living in small towns and big cities, from Utah to New Hampshire, Wyoming to Arkansas. See: <http://wiche.edu/statescholars/newsletter/09feb/index.aspx>.

For further information, contact Nancy Brooks at nancy.brooks@ed.gov