



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

MAR 13 2017

Dear Colleague:

As you know, section 114(d)(4) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 requires the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to support a national research center on career and technical education (CTE). As we look toward a possible competition for a new center later this year, I am writing to encourage you to share your views on the research topics that might be examined by such a center.

As you begin to think about the CTE policy and practice issues that matter most to you, I encourage you to use the agenda framework that was developed by a group of CTE stakeholders convened by the current center in 2015. I think it is useful tool that helps frame and organize our consideration of the many issues that might be addressed through research and evaluation:

- Effectiveness: Which CTE policies, programs, and program elements are effective in improving the educational and career outcomes of students?
- Funding: Which approaches to funding and resource allocation best support effective CTE?
- Equity: Which CTE policies and programs are effective in reducing gaps in access to and success in school and careers?
- Coordination: Which CTE policies and programs promote effective coordination and alignment across education systems, the labor market, and governing agencies?

I am interested in hearing your perspective on which of these broad areas of inquiry are most important to pursue, as well as your ideas on what topics within these broad areas should be given priority.

We have tried to make it easy for to share your recommendations with us: simply email them to us at CTEresearch@ed.gov. I encourage you to share your thoughts by April 28, 2017 so that we may take them into consideration in our planning.

I look forward to hearing your views. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Braden Goetz by telephone at (202) 245-7405 or by email at braden.goetz@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Kim R. Ford
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Delegated the Duties of the Assistant Secretary

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