Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE), I am pleased to invite states and discretionary grantees to apply for the 2017-18 round of customized technical assistance to support the development and refinement of accountability systems pursuant to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV). Technical assistance will be provided by our contractors at RTI International.

Past projects have focused on obtaining information and data, designing materials, or developing and implementing specific components of Perkins accountability systems. Examples of technical assistance topics include:

- developing effective strategies for collecting data on programs of study;
- incorporating career and technical education (CTE) data into state longitudinal data systems;
- statewide and local evaluation of CTE programs; and
- analysis and presentation of CTE program data for stakeholder outreach.

Technical assistance services are intended to supplement, not supplant, state or local efforts to improve Perkins accountability systems. Projects should be specific in scope and build on information and data currently available. RTI will assist DATE in identifying the most appropriate national subject matter expert(s) to meet state’s and discretionary grantee’s needs and priorities, and provide on-site consultation if necessary. Each participating state or discretionary grantee will receive a summary report of their technical assistance project with recommendations. Each report will also have value for other states and discretionary grantees addressing similar issues. Products and reports from past technical assistance projects can be viewed on the Perkins Collaborative Resource Network (PCRN) at http://cte.ed.gov/accountability/technical-assistance-to-states.

To be considered for technical assistance, states and discretionary grantees must submit a brief description (maximum of one page) of their technical assistance needs via e-mail to Sandra Staklis at sstaklis@rti.org. Requests must be received by Friday, October 6, 2017, to be considered for this year’s round of technical assistance.
received assistance, and to states and discretionary grantees that have projects with the highest relevance to the field. We will also prioritize projects that can be completed by April 2018.

If you have questions regarding this opportunity for technical assistance, please contact John Haigh, Performance and Accountability Branch Chief at john.haigh@ed.gov or (202) 245-7735 or Sandra Staklis of RTI International at sstaklis@rti.org or (503) 428-5676.

We look forward to working with you as you undertake efforts to improve your Perkins accountability system.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sharon Lee Miller
Director, Division of Academic and Technical Education