

## *Up-to-Date with DATE*

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

August, 2008

Editor: Ellen Kelly-Holland ([ellen.holland@ed.gov](mailto:ellen.holland@ed.gov))

Correspondents: Nancy Essey, and Clara Lawson-Holmes

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### ***Message from the Director***

As the summer winds down, DATE staff are preparing to host several meetings and conferences, including a first-ever Virtual Data Quality Institute (DQI), a Financial Management Institute, and the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual National FFA Convention. We also are preparing to participate in the National Association of State Directors for Career and Technical Education Consortium's (NASDCTEc) Fall Meeting and the Association for Career and Technical Education's (ACTE) 2009 Convention. At the same time, we are wrapping up our review of state's local applications and drafting the October 1, 2008, Perkins supplemental grant award letters. Finally, we are gearing up to open the Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) database for states to submit their program year (PY) 2007-08 Perkins accountability data. More information about these and other initiatives are included in this issue of Up-to-Date with DATE!

Sharon Lee Miller

Director, DATE

### ***DATE Awards Grants to Six States to Create Statewide Articulation Agreements***

DATE awarded two-year competitive grants totaling \$1.25 million dollars to six states to assist them in developing and promoting rigorous programs of study (POS) through the implementation of statewide articulation agreements. The six grantees will form partnerships among secondary and postsecondary education, state workforce agencies, and employers to construct a POS in one or more of the sixteen career clusters and accompanying articulation agreements that will allow students to gain college credit in high school and transfer credits to and between postsecondary institutions on their way to a certificate or degree. Grantees will engage in ongoing communication and collaboration to identify a common set of course standards that are fully aligned with the expectations of postsecondary institutions. Grantees will also document their work to over the course of the 24-month grant period to capture promising approaches to the creation of effective partnerships and development of articulation agreements that could be replicated by other state and local education agencies.

The six states and areas of focus are:

- Indiana – Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
- New Hampshire - Finance and Health Science
- South Carolina – Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
- Hawaii – Health Science
- Nebraska – Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
- Florida - Health Science/Biotechnology

For more information on the POS grant awards, contact Scott Hess at [www.scott.hess@ed.gov](mailto:www.scott.hess@ed.gov).

## ***Financial Management Workshop Scheduled for October***

DATE will be hosting a one-day workshop for state financial management personnel on Friday, October 17, 2008, in the Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ) Building at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC. The workshop will help financial management personnel to develop a better understanding of the financial processes and requirements of the U.S. Department of Education.

Two financial management persons per state are invited to attend. DATE is pleased to cover the travel costs for one person per state, which will include airfare, lodging, ground transportation, and per diem for two days and one night. An invitation letter with further details will be sent to state directors shortly.

If you have questions, please contact Nancy Essey at [nancy.essey@ed.gov](mailto:nancy.essey@ed.gov) or Sterling August at [sterling.august@ed.gov](mailto:sterling.august@ed.gov).

## ***A Virtual Data Quality Institute Scheduled for October***

DATE will be sponsoring a web-based, "virtual" Data Quality Institute (DQI) on October 2–3, 2008, for state teams of secondary and postsecondary career and technical education directors and their accountability staffs. The session will focus primarily on helping states to develop and implement technical skill assessments to measure student attainment of technical skill proficiency (Perkins core indicators 2S1 and 1P1). The event will feature video presentations by Federal staff and accountability experts, interactive webinars featuring promising state practices, and localized planning by state teams. An invitation letter and draft agenda will be sent to state directors shortly.

For more information, contact John Haigh at: [john.haigh@ed.gov](mailto:john.haigh@ed.gov)

## ***Local Application Review Completed***

Each state received notice in its July 1, 2008, Perkins IV grant award letter that DATE would be conducting a more in-depth review of the secondary and postsecondary local applications that were submitted as part of its Perkins IV Five-Year State Plan. This review was conducted to determine whether, and to what extent, each state's local applications conform to the requirements of section 134(b) of Perkins IV. E-mail notifications with the outcome of DATE's review were sent to state directors on Friday, August 22.

Any state that received notification that its local applications were not in compliance are required to submit revised application(s) by September 24, 2008, in order to avoid a condition being placed on its July 1, 2008, Perkins IV supplemental grant award. Len Lintner will be at the Fall State Directors Meeting in Mystic, CT, to provide assistance to states as needed. He may be reached before or after that time at [len.lintner@ed.gov](mailto:len.lintner@ed.gov) or 202-245-7741.

If you did not receive an e-mail with the outcome of your state's review, please contact Edward Smith at [Edward.smith@ed.gov](mailto:Edward.smith@ed.gov) or 202-245-7602.

## ***Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) Window Opens***

The Perkins Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) database will open on October 1, 2008, for states to begin reporting their narrative, fiscal, and accountability information and data for program year (PY) 2007-2008. States must finalize their submissions by the December 31, 2008, reporting deadline.

As a reminder, for PY 2007-08, states are required to submit the following accountability data:

- Enrollment data for all students, by disaggregated categories of students, and tech prep students (if the state has maintained all or a portion of its title II tech prep program).
- Performance data on the three Perkins indicators that are tied to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)—academic attainment in reading/language arts, academic attainment in mathematics, and graduation rates. States must provide this data for all students, by disaggregated categories of students and, tech prep students (if the state has maintained all or a portion of its title II tech prep program).

For more information, contact Sharon Head [sharon.head@ed.gov](mailto:sharon.head@ed.gov)

### ***The National Center for Education Statistics Features Report on CTE***

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) recently published *Career and Technical Education in the United States: 1990-2005*, the fourth volume to describe trends in career and technical education (CTE). The compendium examines CTE student profiles, teacher qualification issues, and labor market and educational outcomes of CTE participants over a 15-year time period from 1990 to 2005.

Among the key findings, the report notes that that between 1990 and 2005, the number of CTE credits earned by public high school graduates remained steady despite increased academic course taking. The report also found that at both the high school and college level, student participation increased in the occupational areas of health care and computer science, and decreased in business. Other highlights from the report include:

- Just over 90 percent of public high school graduates from the class of 2005 took at least one occupational course in high school. About one in five graduates took at least three courses within one of the 18 CTE occupational program areas.
- Among the public high school class of 1992, the more occupational credits that graduates earned in high school, the lower were their postsecondary enrollment rates eight years after graduating. Nevertheless, 70 percent of the most intensive occupational course takers (those earning four or more occupational credits) in high school had enrolled in postsecondary education by 2000.
- Among students who started postsecondary education in 1995-96, 70 percent of CTE completers working in 2001 reported their job was related to their field of study.
- Thirty-nine percent of employed adults participated in work-related courses in 2004-05, with business, health, and computer science being the most common subjects.

The complete report is available at: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008035>

### ***Two IPA Vacancies Available January 1, 2009***

Last year, DATE established two positions under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) to bring individuals with state and/or local experience to the department through a cost sharing agreement for a temporary (one-year) assignment. This action was taken to foster stronger collaboration with states in planning and implementing national activity projects in career and technical education. The first two IPAs were Ray Davis from the South Carolina Department of Education and Steve Frank from the Texas Education Agency. They will end their stay in December.

DATE now seeks new applicants for IPA vacancies beginning on January 1, 2009. If your state wishes to nominate an individual and hasn't done so already, please contact Scott Hess at [scott.hess@ed.gov](mailto:scott.hess@ed.gov) or 202-245-7772.

Below are quotes from Ray and Steve about their experience with us!

Ray Davis – *“This has been a once in a lifetime experience. It has been somewhat like as a post-doctoral appointment. I have had the chance to work and learn from the nation’s leaders in the area of academic and technical education. As an IPA, you are meeting one day with an international delegation of educators and the next day you are analyzing policy to assist states with implementation of legislation. As an OVAE team member, you contribute to the nation’s education agenda by representing the states’ perspective regarding legislation such as Perkins IV. OVAE staff values my input and, in turn, has provided me with opportunities to refine my knowledge and abilities to better serve my state when I return. When my time is up, I will greatly miss the wonderful people who work in OVAE. They’ve taught me so much. It has been a huge honor to serve my country through my duties at OVAE, for which I am grateful to the leadership.”*

Steve Frank – *“I have valued my time at OVAE as it has proved to be a rewarding educational experience professionally and personally. I have extended my limit beyond a state perspective that will prove beneficial when I return home working at state, regional, and LEA levels. I most enjoy working with the potential of programs of study creating education redesign. The collaborative mission to serve clients and CTE was outstanding. I have immediately been able to assist my state as we move CTE forward in Texas. The staff at OVAE is professional, helpful, and generous with their time. I can’t tell you how much I have appreciated the opportunity to learn and serve within such a dedicated environment. I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to Scott Hess and Sharon Miller for affording me this wonderful opportunity.”*

### **Next Steps Workgroup Scheduled Conference Calls for FY 2008**

The Next Steps Workgroup (NSWG) conference calls serve as a communication vehicle for DATE staff, the states, and other partners to discuss issues pertaining to Perkins accountability systems. Conference calls are typically held on the first Thursday of each month (except in January and July) from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Eastern Time. Sub-groups are formed as necessary to address emerging or pending issues. The following calls are scheduled:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
September 4, 2008	<i>New and Improved Placement Surveys</i> Phone: 1-800-377-4872 Call ID: 25391649
October 2, 2008	No call due to the Virtual DQI
November 6, 2008	<i>Sharing Social Security Numbers</i>
December 4, 2008	Topic to be determined

For further information, contact John Haigh at: [john.haigh@ed.gov](mailto:john.haigh@ed.gov)

### **Partnership between ED and USDA Formed to Support FFA**

The National Future Farmers of America (FFA) State Presidents Conference was held in Washington, DC during the week of July 21, 2008. Among the highlights of the week, the Secretaries of Education and Agriculture jointly signed a letter of cooperation in support of the National FFA Organization and its mission to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through

agricultural education. The signing ceremony was followed by a meeting with the President at the White House.

For more information on this partnership, contact Larry Case at [larry.case@ed.gov](mailto:larry.case@ed.gov)

***Perkins Monitoring Team Schedule***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
September 15-19, 2008	California – Full monitoring visit
October 6-10, 2008	Four Native American Career and Technical Education Program (NACTEP) grantees in North Dakota: Candeska Cikana Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, and Sitting Bull Community College
October 20-24, 2008	Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institute Program (TCPCTIP) grantee: United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND
October 22-23, 2008	Colorado – Targeted monitoring visit
October 27-31, 2008 (tentative)	Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP) grantees in Hawaii: Honolulu Community College, the Oihana project for Native Hawaiian CTE Students, Hawaii Community College’s Native Hawaiian Digital Arts Program, the Hawaii Technology Institute, the Pharmacy Technician Certification Program, and the Marimed Foundation.
November 3-7, 2008	Wyoming – Full monitoring visit
December 8-12, 2008	Connecticut – Full monitoring visit

For more information on the monitoring visits, contact Ed Smith at: [ed.smith@ed.gov](mailto:ed.smith@ed.gov)

***Mark Your Calendar!***

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

<b>Event Title/Sponsor</b>	<b>Dates/Location</b>	<b>DATE Point of Contact</b>
The Next Steps Workgroup (NSWG) Conference Call <i>New and Improved Placement Surveys</i>  Call ID: 25391649; Phone (800) 377-4872	September 4, 2008 Via conference call	<a href="mailto:John.haigh@ed.gov">John.haigh@ed.gov</a>

<b>Event Title/Sponsor</b>	<b>Dates/Location</b>	<b>DATE Point of Contact</b>
Fall 2008 Spring State Director's Meeting – <i>National Association for State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)</i>	September 7-11, 2008 Mystic, CT	Edward.smith@ed.gov
Virtual Data Quality Institute (DQI) - <i>DATE</i>	October 2-3, 2008 Via Webcast and Webinar	<a href="mailto:John.haigh@ed.gov">John.haigh@ed.gov</a>
Financial Management Workshop - <i>DATE</i>	October 17, 2008 Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:nancy.essey@ed.gov">nancy.essey@ed.gov</a>
National Career Pathways Network Conference – Pre-conference Strand on Tech Prep Accountability – <i>National Association for Tech Prep Leadership</i>	October 23, 2008 Cincinnati, OH	john.haigh@ed.gov
National Career Pathways Network 2008 Annual Conference - <i>National Career Pathways Network</i>	October 23-25, 2008 Cincinnati, OH	scott.hess@ed.gov
Rigorous Programs of Study (RPOS) Project Directors Meeting – <i>DATE</i>	October 20-21, 2008 (tentative) Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:scott.hess@ed.gov">scott.hess@ed.gov</a>
81 <sup>st</sup> National FFA Convention – <i>National FFA Organization</i>	October 22-25, 2008 Indianapolis, IN	<a href="mailto:larry.case@ed.gov">larry.case@ed.gov</a>
2008 ACTE Convention and Career Tech Expo – <i>Association for Career and Technical Education</i>	December 4-6, 2008 Charlotte, NC	edward.smith@ed.gov