

Statewide Strategic Plan for Secondary Career and Technical Education

Top Priorities

Below, by goal and specific recommendation, are the top priorities for implementation and funding by the Legislature, called out from the plan as a whole for special notice.

Goal 1: Career and Technical Education prepares students for lifelong learning and employment through the development of adaptable skills and knowledge.

Current Resources

- 1.1.1 Rename the one credit Occupational Education requirement in WAC 180-51-066 as “Career and Technical Education.”

Additional Funding

- 1.1.7 Create state model course equivalencies that districts could adapt to local requirements.
- 1.2.3 Expand middle school level CTE course opportunities, including that all middle schools offer students access to multiple programs of study within career pathways that meet defined POS standards and build into students’ High School and Beyond Plans. Requires legislative action.
- 1.3.10 Encourage that all CTE courses are a sequential part of a POS. Requires legislative action.
- 1.4.3 Call for the creation of a statewide database that connects students and teachers to job shadow/internship opportunities. Requires legislative action.
- 1.4.4 Develop incentives for businesses providing industry-based worksite learning activities. Requires legislative action.
- 1.5.1 Develop delivery models for CTE curriculum that use current and emerging technologies, such as smart phones, tablets, and mobile devices.
- 1.5.4 Ensure adequate funding for CTE programs. Requires legislative action.

Phased-In

- 1.1.10 By 2016, reduce barriers for external partners to provide career exploration opportunities for high school students outside of the regular school day or year (e.g., organizations to provide after-school activities and/or events; community and technical colleges partnering with school districts to provide summer opportunities, and others.) Promote the creation of such opportunities and recognize partner participants. Include workforce development councils as a possible conduit for this partner engagement. Requires legislative action.
- 1.3.6 By 2016, work with the business community to ensure that the credentials earned by students enrolled in CTE programs are valued and validated by the labor market.
- 1.5.3 By 2015, implement procedures to eliminate obsolete or poor-quality programs.

Goal 2: Ensure that every student receives comprehensive career guidance that leads to a personalized Program of Study.

Current Resources

- 2.4.4 Mandate statewide articulations between secondary and postsecondary education. Requires legislative action.
- 2.4.5 Charge education agencies to develop statewide articulations from high school to postsecondary education. Requires legislative action.

Additional Funding

- 2.3.2 Deliver professional development to teachers and counselors on:
- Academic alignment of standards
 - Community-based organizations
 - High School and Beyond Plan requirements
 - Industry partnerships
 - Professional associations
 - Programs of Study
 - Social media integration in the classroom
 - Student leadership

Goal 3: Require CTE teachers and administrators to be fully prepared and supported in their roles as educators and instructional leaders.

Current Resources

- 3.1.11 By 2015, create leadership academy for CTE administrators similar to the principal leadership academy supported by Legislature. Requires legislative action.
- 3.2.1 Develop new CTE certification programs in collaboration with the Professional Educator Standards Board.

Phased-In

- 3.2.4 By 2020, attach CTE director certification to enhanced CTE funding. Requires legislative action.

Goal 4: Ensure that Career and Technical Education is a results-driven education system so as to demonstrate a positive return on investment.

Phased-In

- 4.4.4 By 2018, require the creation of a graduate follow-up system to track students after high school, including those who continue on to two-year or four-year colleges, apprenticeships, military service, certification programs, or work. Requires legislative action.