

**ANTELOPE VALLEY BOARD OF TRADE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
POLICY POSITION WHITE PAPER**

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SUBJECT: Carl D. Perkins CTE Funding/Re-Authorization

SITUATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Perkins funding is the principal source of supplemental federal funding for secondary and post-secondary career-technical education (CTE) programs, which supports high schools, regional/tech centers, community colleges, employers, and CTE students nationwide.

Despite the importance of Perkins funding in advancing high-quality CTE programs, congressional appropriations have not kept pace with the growing needs of students. Over the past decade, total Perkins grant funding to states declined by 13 percent – nearly \$170 million less in funds to support CTE. In FY 2016, California received \$118,353,405 in Perkins funding, about \$1.9 million less than the prior year (which was down \$3 million from the year before), while serving 772,350 high school students and 892,396 post-secondary students. In a recent development, funding for the Perkins Basic State Grant program was proposed to be increased by \$75 million for FY 2018 as part of the omnibus proposal. If enacted, this will substantially remedy the effects endured since the sequestration of 2008.

Failing to provide a strong investment in Perkins will negatively affect millions of CTE students, the business community which relies on a qualified workforce, and the future competitiveness of the country. CTE programs continue to evolve and help to ensure that individuals are able to succeed in growing fields, including engineering, information technology, and health care, among others. This is particularly critical in the Antelope Valley, which has historically been on the cutting edge of

aerospace and defense research and development, which is critical to the health of our national economy and security.

Perkins-funded CTE programs provide access to opportunity for both young people and upskilling or displaced adult workers who want to grow their knowledge, develop their skills, and pursue a high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand career leading to self-sufficiency.

Although significant bi-partisan efforts were undertaken to re-authorize Perkins legislation in 2016 and 2017 (HR 2353), they did not result in passage of a final version through both Houses.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

- Restore Perkins funding to pre-sequestration levels;
- Re-authorize the Perkins Act (due since 2012) to meet ongoing and future needs for funding of high-quality CTE programs.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Appropriations for the Perkins Basic State Grant in FY 2004 were \$1,195,010,000, while for FY 2017 they were \$1,094,097,030.

RESOURCES IN SUPPORT

[US Dept. of Education Perkins Collaborative Resource Network](#)

[Advance CTE Perkins](#)

[ACTE Perkins Reauthorization Priorities](#)



