**Advance CTE**

**Research Request**

*Middle School CTE (Prepared for Alaska)*

**Request:** *Alaska is changing our state regulations to allow Perkins funds to be used down into 7th and 8th grade to be in line with Perkins IV, and I was hoping Advance CTE might have some information on how other states might be allowing/facilitating that.*

National resources:

* [ACTE brief on middle school CTE](https://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Dump/ACTE_CC_Paper_FINAL.pdf)

To answer this request, Advance CTE drew on its state policy tracking and also solicited information from the State Director’s listserv, where we asked the following questions:

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?

**Summary**

Overall, we had 27 states respond. Of those, 5 states do not use state or Perkins funding for middle school CTE. Nine states fund it in limited ways, and 13 states support and fund middle school CTE in a comprehensive or robust way.

You can access those 11 states easily by simply clicking on the links here: [California](#_California_1), [Colorado](#_Colorado), Georgia [Maine](#_Maine), [Nebraska](#_Nebraska), [New Jersey](#_New_Jersey), [Nevada](#_Nevada), [North Carolina](#_North_Carolina), [Oklahoma](#_Oklahoma), [Ohio](#_Ohio), [Texas](#_Texas), [Virginia](#_Virginia), and [Wisconsin](#_Wisconsin).

## **Arizona**

We only allow state funding to be used for middle schools. It is an LEA decision as to how they will support the middle school financially with state funds.

Contact:

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Arizona Department of Education

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## **Arkansas**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Arkansas does fund 7th and 8th grade courses on a limited basis.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Although Perkins funds may be used for 7th and 8th grade courses, Arkansas typically does not fund these courses based on limited funds available and our decision to focus our funding on courses/programs that will allow students to earn high school credit.
  + Arkansas limits the amount of state program start-up funds allocated for 7th and 8th grade courses as programs are prioritized each year for funding based on initiatives and other state priorities.
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE? N/A

Contact:

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Arkansas Department of Career Education

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## **California**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Yes as long as the middle school programs are aligned to high school programs.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Perkins and this year we using state funds for an RFA to fund 10 middle schools start up grants at @25,000 apiece. The middle school CTE programs must be aligned to CA Partnership Academies in their districts.
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?
  + In development and once released I am happy to share the RFA if anyone is interested.

Contact:

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California Department of Education

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## **Colorado**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Yes, they are reimbursed at about a 30% rate just like our high school programs.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + State only
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?
  + This webpage has our program approval for middle school as well as other links: <http://coloradostateplan.com/educator/middle-school-cte/>

Contact:

Sarah Heath

|  |
| --- |
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|  |

## **Connecticut**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Only as part of all funding from the State. There is not specific funding for CTE in 7th and 8th grade.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + State

Contact:

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Connecticut State Department of Education

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## **District of Columbia**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Currently no, but soon
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Currently no funding – soon Perkins and local funding
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE? N/A

Contact:

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## **Georgia**

See Georgia’s middle school CTE guidance [here](http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Documents/Middle-School-Guidance-2015.pdf).

## **Iowa**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + On a limited basis. We ask that any programs funded at the 7th and 8th grade levels help lead into programs that are being offered at the high school.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Perkins funding basically, but the Regional Planning Partnerships which were recently formed in the state of Iowa does use state funding and some activities of these partnerships could include middle school CTE teachers and activities.
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?
  + HF2392 and our CTE Redesign Division I is all about Career Exploration at the middle school level. I am including a link of the guidelines for the districts on the CTE Redesign: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/adult-career-and-community-college/career-and-technical-education/cte-redesign>

Contact:

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## **Kansas**

We do not fund it specifically, but we do have an electronic Individualized Plan of Study that reaches the 7 & 8 graders.

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## **Maine**

* In 2017, the Maine Legislature passed LD 1576, which amends the state’s CTE laws to allow middle school students in grades 6-8 to participate in CTE classes. Read the legislative language [here](http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/display_ps.asp?LD=1576&snum=128), and the news release from the Maine Department of Education [here](file:///C:\Users\Brianna%20McCain\Downloads\•%09https:\mainedoenews.net\2017\09\20\update-about-revisions-to-rule-chapter-232-expansion-of-cte-to-middle-school\).
* Up until now, we have not funded CTE at the middle school levels with federal funds but locals have instituted some programs and have funded them at that level. We have not funded them with CTE state subsidy as that requires state program approval. Schools could use their regular middle school subsidy to run the programs if they so choose.
* We will now approve middle school programs which will allow them to seek CTE middle school subsidy. This will be a separate funding stream than the secondary CTE subsidy. We are currently working on the rules for CTE middle school programs.

Contact:

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Maine Department of Education

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## **Massachusetts**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels? – NO
* Do you use Perkins or state funding? - NO

## **Michigan**

In Michigan, we do not fund CTE below the 9th grade.  Local districts may do so with local funding. We consider these pre-CTE programs.

## **Missouri**

Missouri does not fund CTE programs at the 7th or 8th grade level as we only approve CTE programs at grades 9-12 and postsecondary/adult.

We do have a small grant program that funds PLTW Gateway to Technology or Engineering by Design start up. We use state funding for that purpose. <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/dac_forms/MO5003175.pdf>

Contact:

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## **Nebraska**

Nebraska has always included middle school with Perkins Funds. We have many of our introductory courses for our programs of study that happen at the 8th grade level. We currently have a middle school taskforce made up of counselors, teachers and administrations that is identifying strategies to strengthen career development and CTE delivery at the middle level.

We have also partnered with our state's after school program initiative to add a career exploration component to their materials (we do not use Perkins funds for this activity) and are developing a PK-16 career development system to make certain all students have access to quality career development throughout their education.

Contact:

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Nebraska Department of Education

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## **New Jersey**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?

New Jersey does not actually “fund CTE at the 7th & 8th grade levels in terms permitting LEAs to use Perkins Grant funds on programs, students and activities at these grade levels. This is due to the fact that in NJ LEAs are only permitted use Perkins Grant funds on programs that are NJDOE approved through our state CTE program approval process. Currently only CTE programs at the high school/secondary (NJ defines secondary grades 9-12) can be NJDOE approved.

* Do you use Perkins or state funding?

NJ does support CTE awareness and program exploration at the middle school level. This done in a number of ways and through various funding sources. In terms of use of Perkins Grant funds we regularly approve the use of Perkins funds in LEAs local applications for activities at the high school level such as:

a. Presentations and project based learning activities lead by high school CTE students but involving middle school students.

b. Stipends for High School Counselor for outreach activities occurring outside of their regular contract time with Middle School Counselors, students and families specifically related to CTE program awareness and planning. This strategy has been particularly encouraged for target outreach to nontraditional students to increase awareness of high wage, high skill, high demand careers.

c. Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE? Attached you will find a document describing the types of activities that NJ has done and continues to do to support CTE in middle schools with non Perkins grant funds.

## **Nevada**

Nevada just revised statute, and is in the regulatory process to change State CTE funding to allow for *middle schools*.   Although our Perkins funding has always been allowable for *middle schools*, we have very rarely (and, I’m talking about maybe one or two instances) funded CTE in *middle*schools.  And, in those instances, the *middle schools*partnered with a district secondary school CTE program/administrator to do the CTE program in the *middle school*.

But… our State CTE funding was specific to secondary/high school CTE program funding.  So, in this past legislative session, we changed that to allow for State CTE funding in *middle schools*.  The public hearing for the public regulation hearing is on January 18, 2017 (see attached please find the draft regs; see top of pg. 8).  This will take care of the *policy* side, but districts and CTE administrators specifically will need to work with their middle schools on developing and/or implementing existing CTE programs in their schools.

Contact:   
Kris Nelson

Director

Nevada Department of Education

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## **New Jersey**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels? NO
* Do you use Perkins or state funding? NO

## **North Carolina**

* North Carolina currently provides CTE to our middle schools (Grades 6-8), and state legislation allows state CTE funds to be used in Grades 6-8. Recently our legislature provided a CTE expansion grant of $700K annually for the next seven years specifically targeting grades 6 and 7. The use of Perkins is allowed to grade 7 but our districts are encouraged to use state funds.
* In 2017, North Carolina’s FY 2019 [budget](http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookUp/BillLookUp.pl?Session=2017&BillID=s257&submitButton=Go) included a number of provisions related to CTE. One was directed to middle school CTE:
  + “Establishes a CTE Grade Expansion Program to extend CTE programs to grades 6-7 and funds the grant program at $700,000 for fiscal year 2017-18 and up to $1 million in the following years.”

Contact:

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## **North Dakota**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Very limited – only for equipment in Technology & Engineering Education programs – a 40% match with state funds
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Perkins is available but very seldom used at these levels

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ND Department of Career and Technical Education

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## **Oklahoma**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels? Yes
* Do you use Perkins or state funding? Both
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?
  + Oklahoma CTE supports the middle school programs with technical support, professional development, and CTSO engagement. <https://www.okcareertech.org/educators>

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## **Ohio**

* From the [Learning that Works Resource Center](https://careertech.org/resource/ohio-HB487):
  + *CTE in middle grades*: The law also requires schools to provide CTE courses in 7th and 8th grade by the 2015-16 school year. In most states, CTE is only offered at the high school level. To support local implementation, the Department of Education provides [course outlines](http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/CTE-Middle-Grade-Programming) for each course that is allowed at the middle school level on their website, and also offers guidance on implementation.
* From the Ohio Department of Education website: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/CTE-Middle-Grade-Programming>

## **Pennsylvania**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + Pennsylvania, No
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Pennsylvania, No

## **Texas**

* Here is the Texas code/statute regarding middle grades CTE: <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter127/ch127a.pdf>
* And here is a great resource center, where you can sort CTE courses/curriculum by grade level. <https://txcte.org/resource-index/?f%5B0%5D=sm_field_resource_grade_range%3A6&f%5B1%5D=sm_field_resource_grade_range%3A7&f%5B2%5D=sm_field_resource_grade_range%3A8>

Contact:

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Texas Education Agency

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## **Utah**

Utah currently provides state funding (1.3% of our total secondary CTE allocation) for a statewide required 7th grade CTE course. With that exception, no other state CTE funding can be spent lower than 9th grade. The use of Perkins is allowed at the “secondary level” which in our state is defined as grades 7-12.

Contact:

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Utah State Board OF Education

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## **Vermont**

* In 2017, the Vermont Legislature passed [S. 135](http://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2018/S.135), which was broadly aimed at economic development and included the following provision that targets middle school CTE:
  + “Expands the Workforce Education and Training Fund for school districts to develop career education and planning programs beginning in middle school.”
  + Secondary news source: <http://www.stowetoday.com/waterbury_record/opinion/featured_columnists/legislators-listened-and-made-key-investments/article_3bc247c6-4c5f-11e7-aaeb-9302cc63820c.html>

Contact:

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Vermont Agency of Education

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## **Virginia**

* Does your state fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade levels?
  + The state’s system for career and technical education includes grades 6-12.
* Do you use Perkins or state funding?
  + Perkins funds are used at grades 7-12. State funds are provided for equipment and instructional resources at grades 6-12. Additionally, industry credentialing state funds are provided at grades 9-12.
* Can you share any helpful links or documents about how you support middle school CTE?
  + Specific middle school courses are provided at the grades 6-8, and unique high school courses at grades 9-12. For details visit: <http://www.cteresource.org/>. Administrative information about the state’s system for career and technical education call be viewed at <http://doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/administration/index.shtml>.

Contact:

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Virginia Department of Education

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## **Wisconsin**

Wisconsin does fund CTE with State funding, not Perkins at the 6th – 8th grade level. I am including a link to new legislation to support Academic and Career Planning at the middle and secondary levels: <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/pi/26>

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Wisconsin Technical College System

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## **Wyoming**

Wyoming does not fund CTE at the 7th and 8th grade level with state funds. Districts can use Perkins funds for career exploration in 7th and 8th grade. We allow just about any career exploration activity that teachers come up with for their students. We do not have any rules or policy on it though.