

Dr. Michael Johnson
Commissioner



Department of Education
and Early Development

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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DEED's Plan to Strengthen Career and Technical Education Approved by U.S. Department of Education

JUNEAU – Last week, U.S. Department of Education [Secretary Betsy DeVos](#) approved the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's (DEED) Four-Year State Plan to Strengthen Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Alaska. The plan covers Fiscal Years 2020-2023 and implements the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V).

"One of DEED's primary goals through Alaska's Education Challenge is to increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs," said DEED's CTE Administrator Brad Billings. "Stakeholders from across the state came together to strategize ways to improve state-supported CTE and workforce development activities. Through our shared commitment to empowering students to successfully transition into postsecondary and career opportunities, Alaska's Four-Year State Plan was developed and approved."

CTE programming in Alaska is linked to improved high school graduation rates, accelerated postsecondary enrollment, and increased employment and earning potential for both youth and adult students. Contemporary CTE programming provides students with rigorous academic and advanced technical instruction aligned with state academic standards and industry-validated skills.

The state's vision for CTE involves aligning its educational and workforce systems by using labor market information to address projected employment trends balanced against the need to prepare individuals for careers in developing sectors that will help achieve the goal of a more diverse economy.

The full [Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act \(Perkins V\) Four-Year State Plan](#) can be found on [DEED's website](#).

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development provides information, resources, and leadership to support over 130,000 students in 503 public schools across Alaska. The mission of the department is to ensure an "Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day."

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The logo for the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, featuring a stylized hand reaching up within a circular emblem, with the text "ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT" around it.

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& EARLY DEVELOPMENT