The reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) Improvement Act (“Perkins V”) on July 31, 2018, aims to develop more fully students’ academic knowledge and technical and employability skills through career-connected learning. CTE provides all students with educational options in high school and college that align with labor market needs and prepare them for their future career aspirations. All students benefit from opportunities to explore careers, develop marketable skills, and engage in lifelong learning.

Perkins V requires the state, school districts, and community colleges to engage with stakeholders in their communities and create plans supporting innovation in the future of CTE. The law provides opportunities to Rethink CTE.

PERKINS V OPPORTUNITIES:

- Increases alignment within and between education and workforce systems, such as Illinois’ new multi-pathway college and career readiness indicator for high schools
- Calls for increased industry connections by expanding students’ access to industry experts and work-based learning opportunities
- Requires curricular alignment between high schools and community colleges through programs of study: coordinated, nonduplicative sequences of academic and technical content
- Emphasizes equitable access and outcomes for students traditionally underserved in education and the workforce
- Supports innovative practices, such as competency-based education and distance learning
- Expands flexibility in the uses of funds, such as for career exploration programming in middle grades and industry-recognized certification exams
- Supports recruitment, preparation, and retention of CTE educators
- Supports access to CTE for adults without a high school diploma
- Representatives of special populations
- Adult education providers
- Secondary and postsecondary educators
- Administrators and other support staff

PLANNING TIMELINE:

- **One-Year Transition Plan**
  - Fall 2018-Spring 2019: State engages stakeholders and collects feedback
  - Spring-Summer 2019: Local grant recipients engage stakeholders
  - Summer 2019: State performance targets posted for 60-day public comment
  - Fall 2019: Four-year state plan posted for 30-day public comment; State provides guidance to local grant recipients; Local grant recipients conduct needs assessment
  - Winter 2019: State revises plan with feedback from public comment as appropriate
  - Spring 2020: State consults with Governor and obtains Board approvals; Local grant recipients submit four-year plans
  - April 2020: State submits four-year plan

- **Four-Year Plan**

Send feedback and questions to Perkins@isbe.net or CTE@iccb.state.il.us