DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

OSSE

CTE Data Collection Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Definitions, 2015-16 School Year

FAQs

1) **Who participates in the CTE data collection?**
   All LEAs that offer CTE courses participate.

2) **I thought only schools that receive Perkins funding were required to participate. Is that not true?**
   OSSE uses the CTE data collection in three different reports. Although the Perkins Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) is only for schools that receive Perkins funding, the information is also needed for required EDFacts and CTE Task Force reporting, which are required whether the LEA receives Perkins funds or not.

3) **Who determines the student's CTE program?**
   The LEA should determine the student's CTE program.

4) **Could you please explain the question, "Is the Student a Single Parent?" and to which students it applies?**
   This question refers to whether the student is a single parent or is pregnant and will become a single parent. This does not refer to whether the CTE student's parent or guardian is a single parent. This is a federal reporting requirement.

5) **Could you please explain the question, "Is the Student a Displaced Homemaker?" and to which students it applies?**
   This question refers to students who: 1) have worked primarily without pay to care for a home and family and for that reason have diminished marketable skills; 2) have been dependent on the income of another family member but are no longer supported by that income; or 3) are parents whose youngest dependent child will become ineligible to receive assistance under part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF) not later than two years after the date on which the parent applies; and 4) are unemployed or underemployed and experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment. This is a federal reporting requirement.

6) **If I am unsure whether a student is a single parent or a displaced homemaker, what should I do?**

   LEAs will have the option to mark Yes, No, or Unknown. If an LEA is unsure about a student's status, the LEA should mark "Unknown."

7) **I thought this collection was only for the 2015-16 school year?**

   In addition to information about courses taken in 2015-16 school year, OSSE requires historical information on CTE students in order to classify them. This collection will cover CTE classes offered as early as the 2011-12 school year through the 2015-16 school year.

8) **What are program maps?**

   Program maps are a list of all CTE courses grouped by CTE program and career cluster.

9) **Why does OSSE need program maps? I thought we just had to submit student level data?**

   To determine a student's progress in the CTE program, OSSE requires program maps that link each course to the relevant CTE program. OSSE will contact each LEA directly to facilitate this process.

Definitions

Career and Technical Education: Career and technical programs include schools, institutions, and educational programs that specialize in the skilled trades, applied sciences, cutting-edge technologies, and career preparation. These programs offer both academic and career-oriented courses, and many provide students with the opportunity to gain work experience through internships, job shadowing, on-the-job training, and industry-certification and degree opportunities.

Career Cluster: A grouping of occupations/career specialties used as an organizing tool for curriculum design and instruction. Occupations/career specialties are grouped into career clusters based on whether they require a set of common knowledge and skills for career success.