

## **Charter LEA Acknowledgement of Participation in District CTE Strategic Plan Requirements & Benefits Programs**

Per the [Career and Technical Education Strategic Plan Emergency Establishment Act of 2012](#) (CTE Strategic Plan Act), the District of Columbia’s Career and Technical Education Task Force submitted to the Mayor a Strategic Plan for Career and Technical Education in the District of Columbia. This Strategic Plan includes a number of requirements for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) offering CTE programs and the University of the District of Columbia’s Community College (UDC-CC) to improve the quality, structure, and student outcomes of their CTE Programs. To afford Public Charter Schools the autonomy they are granted in the DC School Reform Act,<sup>1</sup> the CTE Strategic Plan Act concurrently required the Task Force establish “A policy allowing individual public charter schools to apply to the PCSB [Public Charter School Board] for a waiver from the CTE standards set forth in the plan as long as the PCSB has found that the particular charter school has a compelling justification for such a waiver and has established an alternative set of standards and outcome measures for the particular charter school that will be communicated to the OSSE and monitored by the PCSB.”

PCSB and the District’s CTE Task Force have developed the following process to meet this waiver requirement. Any Charter LEA that chooses to opt IN to meet the requirements included in the CTE Strategic Plan shall complete and submit this signed form no later than August 1, 2013 to Rashida Tyler.

By submitting this form<sup>2</sup>, Charters are:

1. Committing to meet all requirements included in the CTE Strategic Plan;
2. Ensuring that they become eligible for benefits afforded to schools through funds established to implement the CTE Strategic Plan. To date, these funds include the following<sup>3</sup>:
  - a. The Career Academy Fund, which will provide seed money to establish four to six National Academy Foundation (NAF) Career Academies at DCPS and PCS high schools in the fields of IT, Engineering, or Hospitality.
  - b. The CTE Certification Fund, which will cover the cost of certification exams for 1,000 District high school and Community College students. These exams are industry-developed, and are designed to measure competence in a field of work. Since students and their families are often expected to pay for exam fees, which range from \$40-\$400 per test, many do not take the exam because they cannot afford to do so.

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<sup>1</sup> District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995. D.C. Official Code § 38-1800.

<sup>2</sup> LEAs will have the option to submit forms annually.

<sup>3</sup> For more information on any of these funds, contact [Erin.Bibo@dc.gov](mailto:Erin.Bibo@dc.gov).

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- c. The Early College & Career Awareness Fund, which will provide programming and funding to DCPS & PCS middle and high schools to promote students' exploration of careers, college, and CTE programs in the District.

Charter LEAs that do not submit this form will be waived from the requirements in the CTE Strategic Plan, and will not be eligible to receive benefits afforded to schools through funds established to implement the CTE Strategic Plan.

By signing and submitting this agreement to PCSB, I am committing that the Charter LEA I represent will meet all requirements included in the CTE Strategic Plan for the District of Columbia.

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**LEA Official** *(signature)*

*(Print)*

*(LEA Name)*

*(Date)*