

2017 VT Career and Technical Education Legislative Proposal

In order for Vermont to continue to be economically viable, there is a need for a well educated workforce. To accomplish that end, Vermont CTE seeks a non-competitive funding structure which supports equity and access for students in grades 9 through 12, in order to expand our workforce, to protect jobs, to retain employers and to grow Vermont's economy.

The Challenge: In the current system, the funding follows the student which serves as a barrier for equal access. Other barriers include increasing local graduation requirements, sending school class schedule, school calendar, guidance/advisement, and transportation.

The VACTED (VT Association of Career and Technical Directors) propose the following interim and long term proposals to stabilize training opportunities while Act 46 and Act 77 are fully realized across Vermont communities:

Short Term/Interim:

1. Title 16 Chapter 37 §1565 - eliminate the requirement of 150 FTEs in order to secure the salary assistance for the Assistant Director position. Add salary support for an Outreach Coordinator to support middle and high schools.
2. Title 16 Chapter 37 §1522(10) - adjust the formula that determines state revenue support for CTE from 6 semester average to 3 year average/October 15th FTE count.
3. Access to Pre Technical Programming for students in grades 9 and 10.
4. Access to All CTE Programming for students in grades 10 through 12.

Long Term:

1. Fund a study committee to address the following challenges:
 - i. Investigate Funding Systems including Flexibility for CTE Centers Serving Out of State Students
 - ii. Expand Equal Access - College and Career Readiness
 - iii. Enhance Industry and Workforce Training Opportunities
 - iv. Enhance Postsecondary Preparedness
 - v. Investigate Governance and Outcomes of Act 46
 - vi. Enhance Priority Career Pathway Supports
 - vii. Coordinate Act 77 and CTE (Career Education and WBL)
 - viii. Collaborate with Stakeholders: Workforce Development, VT Dept. of Labor, VT Adult Learning, VT Economic Development Authority, State College System, Apprenticeship Programs.
 - ix. Create an obligation for Career Pathways Coordination between Career & Technical Education, Adult Technical Education and the State College System.