



STATE OF INDIANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
State House, Second Floor  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Eric J. Holcomb  
*Governor*

April 25, 2024

Secretary Miguel Cardona  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Cardona:

This letter is in support of Indiana's Perkins V State Plan for Career and Technical Education (CTE). The Plan outlines key strategies and activities to realize the vision for CTE in Indiana: through integrated career pathways focused on providing opportunities for career coaching and navigation, college credit and credential attainment, and participation in work-based learning (WBL), CTE will have a measurable impact on an individual's economic and social mobility as well as employers' access to talent.

Workforce development has been a top priority during my tenure as Governor. Career and Technical Education plays a vital role in providing Hoosiers the skills needed for employment opportunities in high-demand, high-wage fields like advanced manufacturing, health sciences, and information technology. Our Next Level Jobs (NLPS) program allows postsecondary CTE students to access high-demand certificates in these and other priority industries tuition-free.

Indiana's secondary CTE programs of study have been completely redesigned under my administration through the NLPS initiative. Secondary students now have access to over 60 CTE programs of study directly aligned to postsecondary programs at our state's community colleges. Students can finish up to a year's worth of postsecondary credits while in high school. Intentionally embedding dual credit into each program of study reduces a high school graduate's time and cost to complete further credentials and, potentially, pursue degrees as they prepare for careers in high-demand, high-wage sectors across our state.

The Plan outlines how Indiana will endeavor to continue utilizing the Perkins grant to drive priority student outcomes: postsecondary credit and credential attainment, participation in high quality WBL, and placement through enrollment, employment, or enlistment following participation in CTE programs.

Indiana is pleased to offer our submission to continue building on our success and ensuring more Hoosiers have access to high-quality CTE programs. My signature below indicates approval and endorsement of the Indiana Perkins V State Plan for Career and Technical Education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric J. Holcomb".

Eric Holcomb  
*Governor*