The vision for the Postsecondary Leadership Success Program at ACTE – sponsored by ECMC Foundation is one of developing the leadership skills of current and emerging postsecondary career and technical education (CTE) professionals with an emphasis on addressing the needs of underserved populations. This ground-breaking leadership experience is sponsored by the ECMC Foundation and the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). Participants in this program will hold leadership positions (e.g. administrator, coordinator, director of CTE, etc) and be currently employed by post-secondary institutions.

By participating in the year-long program, each Postsecondary Leadership Success Program Fellow will develop and refine their skills in organizational leadership and management; build critical interpersonal skills in communication, collaboration, networking, problem solving and the effective use of time/resources; and hone their ability to facilitate institutional change — while working with a personal mentor to strengthen areas for skills-building needed as an effective leader in CTE.

Twenty participants will be selected to serve in the yearlong Postsecondary Leadership Success Program. As participants apply and are selected, they will need to identify a key objective or issue that they wish to address as the capstone project of their scholarship and participation throughout the program, which is the core idea behind the process. The PLSP Scholars will participate in monthly webinars designed to challenge the current thinking and practices designed to propel action toward building a more robust and equitable CTE presence in each participants’ institution. The Scholars will be exposed to such topics as the future of CTE; building stronger alliances with secondary CTE and dual credit; building strong business-education partnerships and creating high quality work-based learning opportunities for students; what skills are demanded to lead in today’s educational and labor climate; Higher Education Act and Perkins reauthorizations; building global competencies; exploring the U.S. skills gap; interaction with leaders from governmental education agencies such as the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE), U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL); and models for high quality CTE programs and instruction.

In addition to monthly webinars the PLSP participants will have four face-to-face meetings to enhance the cohort’s experience as they attend conferences, visit a nationally recognized community/technical college to see programs, business partnerships, and interact with leaders on that campus. The participants will engage with current leaders from across the country on CTE advocacy, policy, instruction and leadership.

Applications for the second cohort of fellows are due December 15, 2019. Participating fellows in the program will be required to complete several focus groups and surveys and assessments that document and share their experience, which will be used in their research project to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program. This program focuses on the access, diversity and equity of high quality CTE programs. In addition, participants will need to be available for the National Policy Seminar (March 28-April 1, 2020 in Arlington, VA), TBD Technical College/Center Experience (Summer 2020 TBD), ECMC Foundation Visit (October 2020 – Washington, D.C.), and Vision 2020 (December 1-5, 2020) – Nashville, Tennessee).

More information and the application can be found at https://www.acteonline.org/plsp(ecmcf. Please contact Lauren Fillebrown (lfillebrown@acteonline.org) with any questions.