Teacher Recruitment, Training and Professional Development

THE PASSAGE OF THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA) marked a major step toward ensuring that all students are prepared to graduate from high school ready for college and careers. The new law includes critical measures to strengthen the role of CTE in our nation's K-12 education system.

AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF ESSA is to support educators through recruitment, training and development opportunities, and Title II is the part of the law dedicated to preparing teachers, administrators and other education professionals for career success. Through funding provide under Title II of ESSA, states and districts can offer specialized professional development that focuses on strategies for integrating academics and CTE. These programs encourage teachers to identify linkages across subjects, while providing common planning time to coordinate lesson plans and pedagogy. In order for students to take advantage of the benefits of integrated content in the classroom, these provisions will ensure that educators in CTE and academic subjects have the tools they need to help students make real-world connections between academic success and future career goals.

Title II also encourages state and local efforts to develop or expand alternative routes to state certification of teachers, including mid-career professionals from other fields and occupations who want to become educators. Attracting qualified individuals with previous business and industry experience to the teaching profession is beneficial for CTE, particularly in areas that are experiencing shortages of CTE educators.

Additionally, under Title I, ESSA allows those schools in greatest need of assistance that are operating schoolwide and targeted assistance programs to develop and implement dual or concurrent enrollment programs to provide postsecondary coursework and opportunities for students to earn postsecondary credit while in high school. Activities funded in this section include training and joint professional development among secondary and postsecondary educators for the purpose of integrating academic and CTE content in such programs.

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is the nation's largest education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. For more information, contact: Mitch Coppes (mcoppes@acteonline.org or 703-683-3111), ACTE, 1410 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, www.acteonline.org.

How Does ESSA Support CTE Teacher Recruitment, Training and Professional Development?

- Supports Specialized Professional Development for Academic and CTE Teachers
- Provides for Common Planning Time to Develop integrated Content
- Encourages States to Develop Alternative Routes to Teacher Certification
- Supports Individuals with Experience in Other Fields Who Enter the Teaching Profession
- Promotes Secondary/Postsecondary Collaboration to Integrate Academics and CTE Content in Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Programs