



Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Pilot Secondary CTE Program Quality Review

Starting in FY 2023, the secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Quality Review (PQR) will be required of all secondary CTE programs receiving funds through state and federal CTE grants. This process will ensure programs of study meet the minimum [size, scope, and quality](#) definitions as required by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) and outlined in [Illinois' State Plan for Perkins V \(FY 2021-2024\)](#).

Purpose

During FY 2021 and FY 2022, ISBE will pilot the secondary CTE PQR using an online format. The purpose of this pilot is to provide feedback to ISBE on necessary revisions to the secondary CTE Program Quality Review IWAS application currently in development. The initial pilot, including training, will run from November 19, 2020 through April 30, 2021.

Intended Pilot Participants: Schools, School Districts, Area Career Centers, and Region Centers in collaboration with their Education for Employment (EFE) Systems

Benefits

- Early access to the required CTE PQR process; will not have to submit completed program reviews in the IWAS application until the next 4-year review cycle (FY 2025-2028)
- Utilize PQR data to increase communication with students and parents about the benefits of your CTE programs, potentially increasing enrollment and interest in programs
- Provide valuable feedback to ISBE to improve the platform and review process
- Increase collaboration opportunities with business and industry, as well as postsecondary education
- Highlight best practices in your CTE programs locally and statewide

Expectations

- Attain administrative approval to participate in the pilot
- Determine a lead school, school district, area career center (ACC), or regional program staff member or point of contact for the pilot
- Submit the pilot participation application by December 18, 2020 – [Click here for the Pilot Application](#)
- Identify a team of staff members from the school, school district, ACC, or regional program to complete the pilot in collaboration with their EFE Systems
- Engage business/industry and postsecondary education partners as part of your team to provide input during the CTE program reviews
- Mandatory participation of a minimum of one pilot team member in:
 - An introductory webinar training on November 18, 2020 AND
 - A mid-point check-in occurring in January/February 2021

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- Complete the CTE program reviews in the online format for at least 5 programs or all programs if fewer than 5
 - Review the program of study by the [10 quality components](#)
 - Utilize FY 2020 Program Data Review (PDR) statistics provided by ISBE to focus on programs with the most need for quality improvement
- Provide continuous feedback on online form access and functionality, as well as the program review guidance document content and clarity
- Complete an end-of-pilot survey collecting the following data points:
 - Hours to complete individual program reviews
 - Identification of the number and role of staff members on your team
 - Description of business/industry and postsecondary education support
 - Recommendation for the best time of the year for completion
 - Reflection on barriers to completion
 - Reflection on successes
 - Any additional data points identified by the mid-point check-in
 - Additional data points the pilot participants feel are valuable for future program review teams

Pilot Information

- There will not be a cap for the number of pilot participants.
 - Ideally, participation will include representation from both small and large districts within rural, urban, and suburban communities
 - Due to the impact of COVID-19, ISBE plans to have a second pilot in FY 2022
- REMEMBER: Those programs reviewed in the pilot years will not have to be entered into the IWAS application until the next review cycle (FY 2025-2028)

For questions or clarifications about the pilot, email ISBE's CTE and Innovation Department at ctepqr@isbe.net.