Assurances

Montgomery County Schools (620) Regular Local School District - FY 2026 - CTE Local Application (PRC 13, PRC 14, PRC 17) - Rev 0 - Part VI: Assurances and Certifications

The development of this application for state/federal aid for secondary career and technical education was coordinated by the director for career and technical education. This plan and the programs, services and activities offered are in accord with State and Federal guidelines. The information, data, and certifications included are accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief.

These assurances and certifications confirm the local educational agency's capacity to carry out the State and Federal legal requirements during the timeframe of this local application. State legal requirements are designated by an (S) and federal requirements ((Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) (P. L. 111 - 224) requirements by an (F).

	* The Local Educational Agency (LEA) hereby assures the State Educational Agency (SEA) that:
A. Local Application for Career and Technical Education Programs	
1.	The purposes of career and technical education as established in Chapter 115C, Article 10 of the NC General Statutes are adhered to in planning, designing, implementing, supervising and evaluating the career and technical education programs within this local education agency (LEA). (S.) (Article 10 Part 1 Section 115C-151)
2.	Career and technical education programs are supervised, directed, or coordinated by persons qualified under the State Board of Education policies. (S. 115C-154 (6)(7))
3.	The LEA will provide free appropriate career and technical education instruction, activities, and services in accordance with this Part for all youth who elect the instruction and shall have responsibility for administering the instruction, activities, and services in accordance with federal and State law and State Board of Education policies. (S. 115C-157)
4.	The expenditures in this plan will adhere to the most recent NC Career and Technical Education (CTE) Fiscal and Policy Guide. (S. 115C-154 (9); 115C-156)
5.	The programs in this plan will adhere to the most recent NC Career and Technical Education Standard Course of Study Guide. (S. 115C-154)
6.	The LEA has developed a career and technical education plan that describes the career and technical education needs of students and potential students in the LEA and indicates how and to what extent the programs proposed in the application meet such needs. (S. 115C-154 (8)) (F. 134 (a))
7.	The LEA has conducted a comprehensive local needs assessment related to career and technical education and has included the results of the needs assessment in the local application. (F. 134 (c)(A))
8.	The LEA has conducted a comprehensive local needs assessment related to career and technical education not less than once every 2 years. (F. 134 (c)(B))
9.	The career and technical education programs and courses are not duplicated within the LEA unless the LEA has data to justify the duplication or has a plan to redirect the duplicative program within three years. (S. 115C-154.1 (2))
10.	For all current job skill programs, there is a documented need based on labor market data or follow-up data or there is a plan to redirect the program within two years. (S. 115C-154.1 (3))
11.	Career and technical education programs in the LEA are in accordance with the purposes of G.S. 115C-151:

	A.	Occupational Skill Development - To prepare individuals for paid or unpaid employment in recognized occupations, new occupations, and emerging occupations. (S. 115C-151 (1))
	B.	Preparation for Advanced Education - To prepare individuals for participation in advanced or highly skilled career and technical education. (S. 115C-151 (2))
	C.	Career Development Introductory - To assist individuals in the making of informed and meaningful occupational choices. (S. 115C-151 (3))
12.	New career and technical education programs show documented need based on student demands, or for new job skill programs, based on student and labor market demands (S. 115C-154.1(4)); or, address high-wage or high skill or in-demand occupations. (F. 135 (3))	
13.	All career and technical education programs are responsive to technological advances, including characteristics of the work force, and the academic, technical, and attitudinal development of students. (S. 115C-154.1 (5))	
14.	Local programs using the cooperative career and technical education method will be approved subject to students enrolled being placed in employment commensurate with the respective program criteria (S. 115C-154)	
15.	Provide career exploration and career development activities through an organized, systematic framework designed to aid students, including in the middle grades, before enrolling and while participating in a career and technical education program, in making informed plans and decisions about future education and career opportunities and programs of study. (F. 135 (b)(1))	
16.	Provide professional development programs for teachers, faculty, school leaders, administrators, specialized instructional support personnel, career guidance and academic counselors, or paraprofessionals. counselors, and administrators. (F. 135 (b)(1)(2))	
17.	The definitions of specific career and technical education program elements are adhered to. (S. 115C-152 (1)(2)(3)(4))	
18.	Support integration of academic skills into career and technical education programs and programs of study. (F.135 (4))	
19.	Plan and carry out elements that support the implementation of career and technical education programs and programs of study and that result in increasing student achievement of the local levels of performance. (F. 135 (5))	
20.	A formal system of evaluation is conducted annually to determine how the programs meet their state objectives and are relevant to employment and occupational needs of students. Evaluation results are maintained in the LEA file designated by the superintendent and are used for improvement in programs. (S. 115C-154 (10))	
21.	Develop and implement evaluations of the activities carried out with funds under this part, including evaluations necessary to complete the comprehensive local needs assessment required. (F. 135 (b)(6))	
22.	An organized system for conducting follow-up studies to determine the effectiveness of the career and technical education programs and guidance and counseling is used by the principal, and a compilation of all schools maintained in the office of the career and technical education director. Records and other information needed to carry out this function are maintained in the teacher's files. (S. 115C-154 (10))	
23.	The LEA has on file the findings of evaluations of career and technical education programs operated in the LEA during the previous one year and five years to ascertain the effectiveness of instruction, services, and activities. (S. 115C-154 (10))	
24.	Each local board of education shall be assisted by a business advisory council in performance of its duties to provide career and technical education instruction, activities, and services. (S. 115C-172)	
25.	Each local school administrative unit shall offer as part of its career and technical education program at least two work-based learning opportunities that are related to career and technical education instruction. A work-based learning opportunity shall consist of on-the-job training through an internship, cooperative education, or an apprenticeship program. (S. 115C-157).	
B. Local Use of Funds		

1.	The LEA will not use more than five (5) percent of the funds for administrative costs associated with the administration of activities under this section. (F. 135 (d))
2.	Funds allocated for career and technical education will be transferred only in accordance with any rules that the State Board of Education considers appropriate to ensure compliance with federal regulations. (S. 115C-105.25 (b)(6))
3.	No funds from Perkins V shall be used to require any secondary school student to choose or pursue a specific Career Pathway Program of Study; or to mandate that any individual participate in a career and technical education program that requires the attainment of a federally funded skill level, standard, or certificate of mastery. (F. 214 (1)(2))
4.	Funds made available under this act for career and technical education activities shall supplement, and shall not supplant, non-federal funds expended to carry out career and technical education activities. (F. 211 (a))
5.	No funds under Perkins V may be used to provide career and technical education programs or programs of study to students prior to the middle grades (5th grade defined by ESSA) except that equipment and facilities purchased with funds under this act may be used by such students. (F. 215)
6.	If the LEA uses funds under this Act for in-service and preservice career and technical education professional development programs for career and technical education teachers, administrators, and other personnel, shall, to the extent practicable, upon written request, permit the participation in such programs of career and technical education secondary school teachers, administrators, and other personnel in nonprofit private schools offering career and technical education programs located in the geographic area served by such eligible agency or eligible recipient. (F. 217)
C. Other Administrative Provisions	
1.	Nothing in Perkins V shall be construed to be inconsistent with applicable federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability in the provision of federal programs or services. (F. 216)
2.	Nothing in Perkins V shall be construed by the LEA to permit, allow, encourage, or authorize any federal control over any aspect of a private, religious, or home school, regardless of whether a home school is treated as a private school or home school under State law. This section shall not be construed to bar students attending private, religious, or home schools from participation in programs or services under this Act. (F. 213)

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Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, debarment and suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, Section 85, Participants' Responsibilities. Copies of the regulations may be obtained by contacting the person to which this application is submitted.

	* The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:
1.	The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this application, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
2.	Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this application.
3.	By signing and submitting this application, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
4.	The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into, if it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
5.	The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this application is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
6.	The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "application," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this application is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
7.	The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this application that should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
8.	The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this application that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions," without modification on all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
9.	A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.
10.	Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

11.	Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntary excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

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Certification Regarding Lobbying for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

Submission of this certification is required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U. S. Code and is a prerequisite for making or entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000.

	* The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:
1.	No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement.
2.	If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
3.	The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact on which the Department of Education relied when it made or entered into this grant or cooperative agreement. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

2025-2026 LOCAL APPLICATION
FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)*
STATE/FEDERAL FUNDING
FINAL SUBMISSION FOR OVERALL APPROVAL

All programs, services and activities administered through this local application will be in accord with the CTE assurances listed in Part VI of the local application. The development of this application for state/federal funding for secondary career and technical education was coordinated by the director for career and technical education. This plan and the programs, services and activities offered are in accord with State and Federal guidelines. The information, data, and certifications included are accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief. The Assurances in Part VI will be carried out.

This application, when completed and approved by the local board of education, finance officer, and the superintendent of schools, becomes an agreement between the local board of education and the State Board of Education. This application is a necessary part of the State Board of Education's accountability to the General Assembly of North Carolina and the United States Department of Education.

Montgomery — **Local Education Agency**

620 — **LEA Number**

5/1/25 — **Date**

APPROVED BY:
Superintendent:

Farrell W. Auman III
Name

Signature

Board of Education Chairperson:

Name of Chairperson

Signature

Finance Officer:

Mitch Taylor
Name

Signature

PREPARED BY:
Director, Career and Technical Education

Matthew J Swain
Name

Signature

**Career and Technical Education is the administrative name which encompasses vocational and technical education in North Carolina. For the purposes of this plan, these terms are synonymous.*