Sec. 1. CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Board may conduct and supervise career and technology classes and other educational programs for students and spend local maintenance funds for the cost of those classes and programs. In developing a career and technology program, the Board shall consider the state plan for career and technology education. *Tex. Educ. Code § 29.183*.

Sec. 2. DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The Board may develop and offer a program that provides a rigorous course of study consistent with the required curriculum and under which a student may:

1. Receive specific education in a career and technology profession that leads to post-secondary education or meets or exceeds business or industry standards; and
2. Obtain from Texas Leadership Public Schools (TLPS) an award for distinguished achievement in career and technology education and a stamp or other notation on the student's transcript that indicates receipt of the award.

An award granted under this provision is not in lieu of a diploma or certificate of coursework completion.

Tex. Educ. Code § 29.187(a), (b).

a) *Contracts with Other Entities*

The Board may contract with an entity identified in Texas Education Code § 29.184(a) for assistance in developing the program or providing instruction to students participating in the program. The Board may also contract with a local business or a local institution of higher education for assistance in developing or operating a career and technology education program. A program may provide education in areas of technology unique to the local area. *Tex. Educ. Code § 29.187 (d), (e).*

b) *Insurance*

If a business that contracts with TLPS obtains any insurance related to the student other than liability insurance, any proceeds of the insurance must be used for the benefit of the student and the student's family. *Tex. Educ. Code § 29.187(g)*.

Sec. 3. PROVIDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The following provisions apply only if TLPS receives federal career and technical education funds. *19 Tex. Admin. Code § 75.1021*.

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a) *Students with Disabilities*

A student with a disability shall be provided career and technical education in accordance with all applicable federal law and regulations including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") and its implementing regulations, state statutes, and rules of the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education ("Commissioner").

A student with a disability shall be instructed in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program ("IEP"), in the least restrictive environment, as determined by the student's admission, review and dismissal ("ARD") committee. If a student with a disability is unable to receive a free appropriate public education (educational benefit) in a regular career and technical education program, using supplementary aids and services, the student may be served in separate programs designed to address the student's occupational/training needs, such as career and technical education for students with disabilities programs.

A student with a disability identified in accordance with the IDEA is an eligible participant in career and technical education when the following requirements are met:

1. The ARD committee shall include a representative from career and technical education, preferably the teacher, when considering initial or continued placement of a student in career and technical education program;
2. Planning for the student shall be coordinated among career and technical education, special education, and state rehabilitation agencies and should include a coherent sequence of courses;
3. TLPS shall monitor to determine if the instruction being provided to a student with a disability in career and technical education classes is consistent with the student's IEP;
4. TLPS shall provide supplementary services that each student with a disability needs to successfully complete a career and technical education program, such as curriculum modification, equipment modification, classroom modification, supportive personnel, and instructional aids and devices;
5. TLPS shall help fulfill the transitional service requirements of the IDEA and implementing regulations, state statutes, and rules of the Commissioner for each student with a disability who is completing a coherent sequence of career and technical education courses.
6. When determining placement in a career and technical education classroom, the ARD committee shall consider a student's graduation plan, the content of the individual transition plan, the IEP, including the consideration of transition services, and classroom supports. Enrollment numbers should not create a harmful effect on student learning for a student with or without disabilities in accordance with the provisions in the IDEA and its implementing regulations.

19 Tex. Admin. Code § 75.1023.

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b) *Student Organizations*

TLPS may use federal career and technical education funds to provide opportunities for student participation in approved student leadership organizations and assist career and technical student organizations in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. However, students shall not be required to join such an organization. Student participation in career and technical student organizations shall be governed in accordance with Texas Administrative Code Chapter 76 (relating to extracurricular activities).

The following career and technical student organizations are recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the TEA:

1. Business Professionals of America (BPA);
2. DECA;
3. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA);
4. Future Educators Association (FEA);
5. FFA;
6. Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA);
7. Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA);
8. Technology Student Association (TSA); and
9. Skills USA.

19 Texas Administrative Code § 75.1024.

c) *Program Evaluation*

If TLPS operates a career and technical education program, such program shall be annually evaluated. *19 Texas Administrative Code § 75.1025*.

d) *Annual Notification*

The Superintendent shall advise students, parents, employees, and the general public prior to the beginning of each school year that all career and technical education opportunities will be offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. Such notification shall comply with the guidelines provided by the *Vocational Education Programs Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, and Handicap*, published by the Office for Civil Rights.

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