

2026-2027 Cutting Edge Grant Application

The purpose of the Perkins Cutting Edge Grant Program is to identify Evidence-Based and innovative strategies and activities to promote the development, implementation and adoption of CTE programs in regards to emerging technology. This grant shall ensure workforce skills are aligned in areas of need in the comprehensive local needs assessment are taught in CTE programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V or the Act) align with labor market needs.

The Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 as promulgated federal funding in a formula grant award to support Career & Technical Education (CTE) at the secondary and post-secondary levels.

From the amounts made available under subsection (a)(1) to carry out this subsection, an eligible agency may award grants to eligible recipients for career and technical education activities described in section 135 in -

- (1) rural areas;
- (2) areas with high percentages of CTE concentrators or CTE participants;
- (3) areas with high numbers of CTE concentrators or CTE participants; and
- (4) areas with disparities or gaps in performance (Section 113(b)(3)(C)(ii))

This competitive grant may be used to support innovative CTE initiatives at the secondary and post-secondary levels, specifically those that do the following:

- (1) foster innovation through the identification and promotion of promising and proven CTE programs, practices, and strategies, which may include programs, practices, and strategies that prepare individuals for nontraditional fields or
- (2) promote the development, implementation, and adoption of programs of study or career pathways aligned with State-identified high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand occupations or industries.

These funds cannot be used for any items not listed in the grant application unless you have received prior approval by the WDE CTE team. The grant may not be used to purchase food, beverages or any other unallowable uses of funds under the Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006. This includes supplies and materials that are being used for individual student projects. This grant cannot be used for salary and benefits or professional development unless it is directly related to the equipment being purchased. All projects made with the materials and supplies purchased with this grant money MUST remain property of the school district.

This application will be open for submission until August 31, 2026. Applications will be reviewed and scored by a grant review committee, and amounts awarded will be equal to or less than \$25,000 each. You will be notified of the award no later than September 15, 2026. Application can be made by more than one program of study, however only one award per college, district or consortium (application with the highest score}

Funding will begin upon final execution of the Grant Agreement. ANY INVOICES

DATED PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE FINAL SIGNATURE BY WDE ON THE GRANT ASSURANCES ARE

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT. All funds must be expended by June 30, 2027. If there are costs above and beyond the amount requested that are going to be covered by the District a letter from the district superintendent or the school board must be submitted with the application stating they will cover the difference.

Previous Grantees that failed to meet all requirements of the award are not eligible to apply.

Grant recipients will be responsible for dissemination via an article in the WDE CTE Newsletter or other approved dissemination method prior to June 2027. If you have previously received a grant from the WDE CTE unit and have not disseminated the information you will not be eligible to apply for one full grant cycle.

The Wyoming Department of Education shall award the grant to the successful applicant on a reimbursement basis.

I understand that if I fail to follow my school district or community college's grant application policies that my school district or community college may choose not to accept the grant funding.

The grant applications will be scored as follows (100 points total):

1. Project Narrative (0-15 points)

(does the overview thoroughly outlines the project and how it will create, implement and sustain itself)

2. Innovation and Emerging Technologies (0-40 points)

(explanation of the elements of the innovative strategies regarding the evidence-based improvement and effectiveness of student outcomes and also describe the alignment with business and industry)

3. Implementation Plan (0-15 points)

(does the plan thoroughly describe action steps, identified resources, timeline, responsible individual(s), and resulting in evidence of success)

4. Evaluation of Effectiveness (0-15 points)

(was there an explanation of evaluation process showing improvement of effectiveness and outcomes)

5. Budget Narrative (0-15 points)

(does the project budget narrative describe all project costs and/or expenditures)

Preference Points (5 points)

Is this project aligned to a NexGen partnership with the Wyoming Workforce Development Council?

Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact Ilaine Brown CTE Education Consultant at ilaine.brown1@wyo.gov.

* Indicates required question

1. By submitting this grant application, I attest that I have followed the grant submission processes and procedures of my school district/consortium/college/institution. *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ I have followed the grant submission process and procedures
☐ I have not followed the grant submission process and procedures

2. NextGen Partner. As defined by [DWS website](#) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

APPLICANT INFORMATION

3. School District/Institution Name *

4. School District/Institution Street/Mailing Address *

5. School District/Institution City and Zip Code *

6. Contact Name *

7. Contact Email *

8. Contact Phone number *

PROJECT INFORMATION

9. Project Title and Brief Description *

10. Amount Requested *

PROJECT NARRATIVE

11. How will this competitive grant be used to support innovative CTE initiatives for emerging technology *

INNOVATION AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

12. What are the elements of the innovative strategies regarding the evidence-based improvement and effectiveness of student outcomes. *

13. Describe the alignment of these strategies with business and industry needs *

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

14. Describe the action steps, identify resources, timelines and responsibilities. *

EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS

15. Explanation of evaluation process showing improvement of effectiveness and outcomes. *

BUDGET NARRATIVE

16. Please provide a budget detailing the expenditures planned if awarded this grant. *

PREFERENCE POINTS (If working with a NexGen Partnership)

17. Please list all programs that you are collaborating with. *

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