Perkins Application Guidance Update New For 2025-26

New flexibilities in the administration of the Perkins V Grant have been approved in the NYS Perkins V State Plan. These flexibilities center around middle level CTE and developing or newly approved NYSED CTE programs.

Flexibilities for Middle Level CTE Programs

To utilize these middle level CTE flexibilities within the Perkins application, a district or BOCES must first be meeting 90% of the Perkins Performance Indicator targets within their Perkins-funded, NYSED-approved programs or showing significant growth through a pre-established two-year improvement plan.

If, through course-level data, it can be confirmed that a district is providing the required 1.75 units of middle level CTE instruction, an eligible recipient may apportion some of their Perkins allocation (beginning in the 2025-26 school year) to middle level CTE programs in their district or, in the case of a BOCES, their component districts. These funds cannot supplant costs associated with the already required 1.75 units of middle level CTE required by Commissioner's Regulation 100.4(c).

In regard to middle level CTE, Perkins funds may be used to:

- support middle level CTE-certified teachers and middle level counselors with high-quality professional development in the area of CTE;
- offer students new career development and career awareness experiences that are separate from the required units of study and above and beyond what the district has already funded locally; and/or
- support middle level chapters of Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) while following
 included parameters on pages 9 through 11 of the Perkins application guidance document as it
 relates to the secondary-level CTSO funding allowances.

Flexibilities for Developing or Newly Approved CTE Programs

To utilize flexibilities for developing or newly approved CTE programs within the Perkins application, a district or BOCES must first be meeting 90% of the Perkins Performance Indicator targets within their Perkins-funded, NYSED-approved programs or showing significant growth through a pre-established two-year improvement plan.

Developing or newly approved CTE programs that have not yet met the eligibility requirements of size, scope, and quality under Perkins may use Perkins funding to support:

- salaries of newly hired CTE teachers for up to three years;
- high-quality professional development for newly hired teachers;
- technical assessment fees for students to alleviate a financial barrier; and/or
- the cost of translated or varied reading level CTE material for the curriculum.

Three scenarios/timelines are included on pages 2 and 3 as reference for this flexibility.

Perkins Flexibilities

For programs approved to operate 2025-26 school year

June 1, 2025

If program is NYSEDapproved for 2025-26, new staff professional development (PD) allowable with Perkins. June 1, 2026

SIRS data will confirm size, scope, and quality eligibility. If eligible, program can be fully included in 2026-27 Perkins application.

September 1, 2026

Program will continue to grow and staff will be supported while it strives to meet size, scope, and quality requirements.

November 1, 2025

New program can be included in 2025-26 CLNA while waiting to achieve size eligibility.

June 30, 2026

If program has not met the size, scope, and quality eligibility, staff can continue to receive PD and other internal supports through 2026-27 school year.

June 1, 2027

If new program has verified SIRS data showing size eligibility, Perkins funds can be apportioned to this program in 2027-28.

Perkins Flexibilities Example 1

Perkins Flexibilities

For programs seeking initial approval by October 1, 2025

July 1, 2025

New teacher can be hired Perkins continues to and supported with Perkins in the 2025-26 application for completion of program approval by 10/1/25.

June 1, 2026

support teacher salary and PD for 2026-27 school year as program grows to meet size, scope, and quality eligibility.

June 1, 2027

Teacher can be funded for 2027-28 (third and final year) as program continues to grow.

December 1, 2025

NYSED approval granted for 2026-27 while teacher continues to build program capacity, partnerships, etc.

September 1, 2026

Program runs as approved for 2026-27 school year, teacher is in second year of Perkins support with salary and PD benefits.

September 1, 2027

Approved program grows to reach size, scope and quality requirements for further Perkins funding in 2028-29 school year.

Perkins Flexibilities Example 2

Perkins Flexibilities

For programs seeking initial approval on or before October 1, 2026

July 1, 2025

New teacher can be hired and supported with Perkins in the 2025-26 application for program development. June 1, 2026

Teacher can be funded for 2026-27 school year (local program) and receive Perkins funded PD as program grows. June 1, 2027

Teacher can be funded for 2027-28 (third and final year) as program runs for the first time as a NYSED-approved program.

23

4

6

May 1, 2026

Early submission for initial approval. If program is approved for 9/1/27, teacher can run program locally for 2026-27 school year.

September 1, 2026

Program is running locally for 2026-27 school year, teacher is in second year of Perkins support with salary and PD benefits.

September 1, 2027

Newly approved program is running as it grows to reach size, scope and quality requirements for further Perkins funding.

Perkins Flexibilities Example 3