

Ohio College Tech Prep Fact Sheet (March 2009)

Connected, rigorous sequence of courses that leads to a postsecondary degree and a new economy

National

- Since the 1980's, Tech Prep has been a national education reform effort that engages educators, employers and community members to serve students while meeting the increasing demand for a technology-skilled workforce.
- The federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational-Technical Education Act of 1984 encouraged formal articulation agreements to facilitate students progression from high school to college, with the primary focus on progressing to a two-year college for additional technical education.
- In the early 1990s, Perkins grants were offered to all 50 states for "Tech Prep" programs with core curriculum pathways linking secondary and postsecondary education and integrating rigorous academic education with career-technical education.
- The 2006 Carl D. Perkins legislation continues to provide support for innovative Career-Technical Education, which is aligned with workforce development and economic development initiatives.

Ohio

- Through collaborative leadership of the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Board of Regents, the first Ohio high school juniors were enrolled in Ohio College Tech Prep programs in 1993-94.
- In 10 years – from 1994-1995 to 2004-2005, the number of high school students in Ohio College Tech Prep grew from must over 600 to 13,000 in more than 800 programs. Postsecondary Tech Prep student enrollment grew from 57 to 7,000 with oversight by 23 consortia.
- Ohio College Tech Prep programs are offered in areas that include: engineering, teaching (science and math), computer programming, biotechnology, computer networking, interactive multimedia, marketing, business, procurement and logistics, health, criminal science, e-commerce, construction, horticulture and auto technology.
- In 2004, Ohio became part of the national Project Lead The Way (PLTW) effort, which is part of College Tech Prep.
- In 2005-2006, College Tech Prep adopted a teaching pedagogy grounded in business and industry with students working on problems defined by a local business/industry. This problem-based, inquiry-based initiative brings education to life, making it relevant and rigorous while building relationships among community members.
- College Tech Prep curriculum emphasizes Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers with Core academic Skills.
- College Tech Prep provides a seamless pathway for students to easily matriculate to postsecondary education through several advanced credit, articulated credit options.

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