

5. Career Technical Education

- g. **Programs of study authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), that support the strategy identified in the State plan under section 102(b)(1)(E).**

Career Technical Education programs play a key role in Pima County's local workforce system. Pima Community College has more than 140 CTE programs listed on the Eligible Training Provider List for WIOA funding. The Pima County Joint Technological Education District (JTED) offers tuition-free CTE programs to high school students at central campuses and satellite high schools for more than 70 occupations. Many of these programs offer opportunities to earn industry certifications, and/or a state license, as well as high school credit or college credit or both high school and college credit through dual enrollment opportunities.

Long-standing practices that leverage these significant resources include:

1. Co-funding with Pima Community College two full-time Student Services staff people to work on site at the comprehensive job centers to facilitate registration, enrollment, progress tracking and credentialing of one-stop customers.
2. Joint projects and discretionary training grants with PCC's Center for Training and Development, including the Round 1 and Round 2 HPOG demonstration grants, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College Training (TAACCT) Round 2 and 4 grants, and the Youth CareerConnect Grant.
3. Sponsorship, through WIOA Youth or Pima County General Funds, of students from high-school CTE programs in paid summer work experiences that relate to their coursework and help them transition into careers.
4. Participation by PCC administrator responsible for submission of programs for Eligible Training Provider List on the WIB Performance Committee.

Pima County WIB is engaged in the following efforts with core and CTE partners that support State strategies identified pursuant to 102(b)(1)(E) under section II.C.2. of the State Workforce Development Plan:

Strategy 7 – Identify and respond to high-demand and growing industry/employment sectors

Both JTED and PCC require evidence of industry demand as part of the approval process for new CTE programs, and ongoing industry input via advisory committees. The state and local ETPL policies include demand and/or growth among eligibility criteria for approval of programs for WIOA Training Services. The local training and support guidelines provide incentives to encourage participants to choose training that aligns with targeted industry sectors, including priority points and additional assistance above the standard training and support caps.

Sector strategy partnerships have been an important way to bring about further alignment of CTE programs with high-demand/high-growth/high-wage industries. Sector Partnerships in aerospace/defense manufacturing (Southern Arizona Manufacturing Partners), logistics (Southern Arizona Logistics Education Organization), healthcare (Tucson Healthcare Sector Partnership), and infrastructure/utilities (Arizona Sun Corridor Get Into Energy Consortium), all include a strong focus on aligning CTE at both the secondary and post-secondary levels with industry needs. Representatives from Pima Community College, JTED and various high schools have been active in all of these sector groups; in some cases the sector partnership serves as the formal industry advisory committee for the CTE program.

Strategy 8 – Establish model career pathways for designated industry sectors.

Fourteen career pathways are identified in section 8.g. CTE and core program activities are aligned in varying configurations in each one of these models, as described in that section. PCC ABECC (WIOA Title II) periodically engages Title I, CTE and industry sector partners to develop Integrated Basic Skills Training (IBEST) programs in new occupational fields. The Center for the Future of Arizona has also convened a Pathways to Prosperity Tucson regional planning group with representation from JTED, PCC, Pima County Title I and industry sector partners to develop more “2+2” pathways leading from grades 9 to 14. As such, PCC has commenced the CTE Dual-Credit Academies initiative to establish coherent sequences of courses in priority sectors that allow high school students to earn a PCC certificate as a part of their JTED course of study. This effort has been enhanced by the Pima County One-Stop Youth CareerConnect project, which expedited pathway development in BioScience, Manufacturing, Aviation Technology, and Health Information Technology.

Strategy 9 – Implement increased opportunities for alternative training and education, including work-based training and registered apprenticeship.

CTE partners are supporting this strategy in Pima County by:

- Offering college courses that satisfy requirements for certificates or degrees and meet the classroom requirements of registered apprenticeships, such as Electrical Utilities Technician and Building and Construction Trades.
- Developing degrees and certificates that incorporate a credit-bearing internship course requirement, designed based on industry input, as in the case of the PCC Logistics and Supply-Chain Management program.
- Instituting credit for prior learning policies and procedures so that individuals can demonstrate learning attained through work experiences by means of a portfolio, third-party, industry-recognized credential, or exam.
- Partnering to develop IBEST versions of established CTE programs, as in the case of the PCC Behavioral Health Specialist Certificate.