

APPENDIX E: Responses to Public Comments

Comments received during the public comment period for the state plan are listed below along with OCHE's responses.

General Comments

One public comment was received outside of the Perkins V Advisory Committee feedback. The comment urged Montana to dedicate funding CTE programming in the middle grades. The Partner Agencies agree that CTE programming and career exploration is extremely important in the middle grades but did choose at this time not to award Local Application funding to middle schools, as resources are already stretched thin. We do, however, encourage our postsecondary LEA's to consider partnering with local middle schools to offer career exploration activities as a part of their grant expenditures. We look forward to seeing more partnership and collaboration with middle schools in the future.

Feedback from the Perkins V Advisory Committee

Monitoring – The Perkins V Advisory Committee requested that language around monitoring procedures be written more broadly within the State Plan, so that more specific procedures can be written in Montana's CTE Handbook. The Partner Agencies agreed and made the adjustment.

Teacher Licensing – In the draft of the State Plan, there were details written about a proposed teacher licensing procedure related to CTE instruction. Because the proposal had not been accepted and will need to be approved through the State Legislature, it was recommended that the language be edited to reflect the potential for the proposal to be used in the future, rather than the present. The Partner Agencies Agreed and made the adjustment.

Credentials of Value – The Perkins V Advisory Committee requested that information pertaining to recent State initiatives be included in the State Plan, specifically regarding related to transformational learning and work-based learning. The Partner Agencies agreed and added information to the State Plan.

Locally-Approved Pathways/Programs of Study – The Perkins V Advisory Committee recommended that language be included in the State Plan to reflect the allowance of locally-approved programs of study. The Partner Agencies agreed and made the adjustment.