



Rhode Island Career and Technical Education: Categorical Funding Policy

RIDE and CTE Board of Trustees
March 6, 2020

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to describe how the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) will allocate state categorical funding to support career and technical education (CTE) in accordance with RIGL §16-7.2-6(b). This policy is intended to ensure that funding results in high-quality programs for students in preparation for career success.

RIDE CTE investments are intended to supplement rather than supplant local CTE investments. To be eligible for funding, districts must provide annual documentation of continuity of local funding or maintenance of effort.

Part 1: High Cost Offset Funding

High Cost Categorical Funding shall provide supplemental funding to CTE programs to offset the increased expenses associated with supporting high-quality CTE programs.

Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, state-approved CTE programs shall:

- a) prepare students for Priority Sector CTE programs; and
- b) meet the program standards adopted by the Career and Technical Education Board of Trustees (CTE Board).

Use of Funds

Effective July 1, 2020, CTE Categorical funding shall be invested into the approved program that generated the funds. Funds may not be reallocated to different CTE programs within the same school. Each recipient will be required to submit an annual expenditure report detailing how funding was invested. LEAs may request a waiver from some or all of this requirement. Waiver requests must be made to RIDE, which will evaluate the request based on standards set by the CTE Board, and notify the CTE Board of any waivers granted at the CTE Board's next meeting.



Part 2. Expansion Funding

Categorical CTE Funding shall support the incubation, transformation or expansion of CTE programs that specifically prepare students for Priority Sector career fields.

Annually, RIDE and the CTE Board, in conjunction with the Governor's Workforce Board and the Department of Labor and Training, will review real-time Labor Market Information to determine CTE Programs that prepare students for Priority Sector career programs. To be eligible for funding, supported programs must both:

- a) align to Priority Sector career programs; and,
- b) meet program standards approved by the CTE Board.

Original policy was adopted in September 2016 and took effect on July 1, 2017. Policy was updated on March 6, 2020 and will take effect on July 1, 2020.