

OCTAE Connection Flash Edition

Request for Information on Expanding Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Youth

With the heightened interest in expanding [work-based learning](#) (WBL) for career and technical education students occurring at the same time that participation in work by youth is waning, the U.S. [Department of Education](#) is soliciting ideas and information from a broad array of stakeholders on strategies and approaches to expand WBL opportunities primarily for high school students ages 16 or 17. These opportunities may include, but are not limited to, paid internships, work study, cooperative education, apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeships. Input on stabilizing and increasing WBL will also be critical to mitigate the potential short- and long-term impact of the pandemic on youth employment.

The [Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education](#) at the U.S. Department of Education is pleased to announce the release of a Request for Information on Expanding Work-Based Learning Opportunities for Youth. Please use the following link to share your thoughts and ideas on barriers that limit and successful approaches for expanding work-based learning opportunities for youth: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/12/02/2020-26483/request-for-information-on-expanding-work-based-learning-opportunities-for-youth>.

Submissions must be received by **Jan. 13, 2021**.

The Department is interested in learning about successful approaches to expanding WBL opportunities for youth from states, tribes, state and local educational agencies, community-based and other nonprofit organizations, employers, industry associations, philanthropic organizations, faith-based organizations, researchers, and other interested individuals and entities. The public input provided in response to this notice will inform the deliberations of the Department on the implementation of the [Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act \(Perkins V\)](#) and the Department's consultation and coordination on activities related to federally supported youth employment initiatives with its partners in the implementation of the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#), including the [U.S. Departments of Labor](#) and [Health and Human Services](#).

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