



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TO: Superintendents, Secondary School Districts
County College Presidents

FROM: Marie Barry, Director
Office of Career and Technical Education

DATE: March 25, 2011

SUBJECT: May 5, 2011 Career and Technical Education Statewide Conference

The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Career and Technical Education is sponsoring a one-day professional development event for teachers, school administrators, college faculty, government and workforce personnel with an interest in successful student transitions to postsecondary education and careers. There is no registration fee, and luncheon will be provided at no cost to attendees.

Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders: Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century Workplace will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at the Hilton East Brunswick, 3 Tower Center Boulevard, East Brunswick, NJ, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, with onsite registration beginning at 7:30 AM. The highlight of the event will be a keynote presentation on "**Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century**," by nationally recognized speaker William C. Symonds, Director of the Pathways to Prosperity Project at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. At the heart of the project is discovering new ways for the education system to help prepare young adults for the workforce. "As the United States falls behind many other nations in high school and college graduation rates, the American education system needs a major overhaul," according to Director Symonds. [Pathways to Prosperity](#) project launched in 2008 to explore promising solutions to these immense challenges, including developing a range of "multiple pathways" to help more adolescents successfully complete the journey to entering the adult workforce.

The conference will showcase innovations and successful practices in career and technical education, and will include a robust agenda on a wide range of topics including:

- Articulation / Credit Transfer Agreements
- Business & Industry Workforce Needs
- Career Academy Development
- Career and Technical Student Organizations
- High Schools That Work (HSTW) Showcase
- Integration of Social Networking in CTE Programs
- Math in CTE Project
- Parental Involvement in Education
- Personalized Student Learning Plans
- Programs of Study: Secondary and Postsecondary Connections
- Technology Centers That Work (TCTW)
- Using Data to Drive Program Improvement

Attendance by colleges and school districts receiving Perkins funding is highly recommended. It is recommended that you send at least one representative who is responsible for local decision making concerning the completion and submission of the grant application and data analysis, in addition to the person(s) that complete the Perkins funding application and are familiar with the EWEG system. Prospective attendees should register electronically by visiting the NJDOE website registration at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/events/> and clicking on Calendar of Technical Assistance Sessions, then follow the appropriate links to the May 5, 2011 date and event.

If you experience difficulty with the online registration, please contact Maria Constantin, planning associate, at 609-984-2599 or by email at maria.constantin@doe.state.nj.us. We look forward to working with you in the coming year and thank you for your continued support of career and technical education.

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