

Montana Perkins Secondary Reserve Grant

Purpose: To create career awareness, recruit, and retain students within a CTE Secondary Program of Study that leads to a high skill, high wage, or in demand occupations.

The most offered middle school CTE course is in career exploration. Montana does provide Perkins's funding for middle school CTE programs directly although districts can use their funding to support it. The Perkins Secondary Reserve Grant will be to encourage pathway work for the middle grades.

Schools could use the funds to help:

- establish innovative delivery methods for career exploration
- expose students to employability skills earlier
- establish foundational elements for work-based learning
- improve transitions from middle grades into secondary Career and Technical Education pathways.

Middle School Awards: Grants of **up to \$5,000** each will be available to secondary Perkins eligible school districts to support CTE work in the middle grades (5-8). Schools will have to have complete the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) and E-Grant application as well for the 2024- 2025 Grant cycle. Middle School programs will need to work with their high school district to apply and submit the application.

Districts are only eligible for a total of \$5,000 in awards, must have completed the Perkins Grant Application for Fiscal year 25 and receive an allocation of less than \$15,000.