Perkins V Requires States to Describe High-Skill, High-Wage, and In-demand Employment

Perkins V
SEC. 2. 20 U.S.C. 2301c PURPOSE.
The purpose of this Act is to develop more fully the academic knowledge and technical and employability skills of secondary education students and postsecondary education students who elect to enroll in career and technical education programs and programs of study, by—
(1) Building on the efforts of States and localities to develop challenging academic and technical standards and to assist students in meeting such standards, including preparation for high skill, high wage, or in-demand occupations in current or emerging professions;...

The State Executive Leadership Team made up of representatives from the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE), the Office of Public Instruction (OPI), the Governor’s office, and the Department of Labor- State Workforce Innovation Board (SWIB) determined that the definition for High-Skill, High-Wage, and In-demand employment is as follows:

- High-skill – requiring a degree or credential in addition to or beyond a high school diploma
- High-wage – 60% and above the median income per county/city/DLI region/state/etc.
- In demand – DLI argues that every industry and career and currently in demand in Montana

All Local Education Agencies requesting Perkins funding are required to assess their MT Career Pathway(s) and determine if they meet a minimum of two of these requirements.