Department of Education
Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Explanation of Career & Technical Education (CTE) FSF Tiering as of June 2011

Overview:

Fair Student Funding is the allocation methodology for almost $6 billion of schools' money and makes up approximately 64% of school budgets. This funding covers basic instructional needs and is allocated to each school based on the number and need-level of students at the school. All money allocated through FSF can be used at the principals' discretion.

FSF money follows each student to the public school that he/she attends. Each student receives a base level of funding dependent only on grade level. Students with special needs receive additional dollars. Additionally, students enrolled in CTE-designated high schools are entitled to specialized weighting consistent with their CTE program of study.

Portfolio Weighting: CTE High Schools

Students attending CTE High Schools are funded according to a four-tier structure.

The current tiers are:

1. Nursing/Aviation Technology = .26
2. Health/Trade/Technical = .17
3. Business = .12
4. Home Economics / Arts = .05

The tiered structure reflects the *relative* cost factors necessary to operate different CTE programs of study. The significant factors reflected in this structure are: class size requirements, equipment and materials, industry training for teachers and start up costs. Tier 1 and 2 programs require significantly lower class size, industry specific equipment and highly specialized and ongoing industry training.

The simple definitions above do not adequately capture the range of program pathways encapsulated in each tier. Further explanation is summarized below and detailed program level information can be provided.

Department of Education
Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Tier 1 Programs	Tier 2 Programs	Tier 3 Programs	Tier 4 Programs
Nursing	Architecture & Construction: Technical pathways	Architecture & construction: pre-design and design pathways	Arts, AV, Technology & Communications pathways
Agriculture & Veterinary	Health Science (pathways other than nursing)	Commercial Arts	Business pathways
Aviation Technology	Computer networking and repair	Engineering	Management & Administration
	Cosmetology	Law enforcement	Finance
	Automotive technology and repair	Hospitality & Tourism	Marketing, Sales, Services
		Information Technology relating to business	Media & communications (including some graphics pathways)
			Policy
			Education
			Journalism
			Law studies

(Click here for a downloadable Word document)