

**Explanation of
Career & Technical Education (CTE) Tiers and
Fair Student Funding Weights
As of April 2016**

Overview:

Fair Student Funding (FSF) is the allocation methodology which provides funding to schools to cover basic instructional needs. It is a student needs-based funding model, where dollars are 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:

- a. Tier 1 = .26
- b. Tier 2 = .17
- c. Tier 3 = .12
- d. Tier 4 = .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, higher level use of consumable supplies and materials, student internship requirements, and highly specialized and ongoing industry training.

Tier 3 and 4 require many of the same elements that are mentioned above, but the cost to operate these CTE programs are not as demanding; equipment, consumable supplies and materials, and professional development are not as industry specific as indicated in the higher tiers. The chart below indicates the CTE program of study that falls within each funding tier, it provides a summary of CTE program pathways and detailed program level information can be provided.

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, Audio Visual, 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
	Culinary	Information Technology (Relating to Business)	Media & Communications (including some graphics pathways)
			Policy
			Education
			Journalism
			Law studies