

CTECS 2015 Community of Practice Conference

October 19 and 20
The Benson Hotel
Portland, Oregon



Agenda



- ❖ Logistics
- ❖ Meeting purpose, goals, & expectations – why meet?
- ❖ CTECS background, Oregon, updates & public relations
- ❖ CTECS assessment revalidations

Why meet?



- ❖ Consortium annual benefit—**your conference**
- ❖ Recognize the work/achievements you make
- ❖ Share best practices and trials and tribulations
- ❖ Network and recharge
- ❖ Learn from each other
- ❖ Collaborate in the spirit of CTECS' mission

Who is CTECS?

Career and Technical Education Consortium of States (CTECS)

- Established in 1973
- 501 c3, not-for-profit organization
- Consortium of states and partners
- **Nationally recognized for its expertise in developing standards and assessment systems based on a valid occupational analysis process.**
- The consortium model allows CTECS to connect the best resources and practices from participating partners and members by identifying dynamic relationships and benefits for all.



Members & Partners

Secondary and Adult Education (44 Member States over the years)

- Idaho
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Nevada
- Oregon
- South Carolina
- Virginia

Government

- US Department of Labor
- US Department of Education (OVAE)
- United States Army Recruiting Command (USAREC)
- U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons

Industry and Associations

- National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF)
- Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA)
- CISCO
- Florida Automobile Dealers Association (FADA)
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)
- National Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS)
- National Academy Foundation (NAF)
- Southern Regional Education Board of Education (SREB)

Post Secondary

- Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG)
- Great Basin College
- American Technical Education Association (ATEA)

Adopt, Adapt, Develop

Using **CTECS Technical Assessment Design Model**, provide industry validated research, standards and assessment services and resources to states and partners to foster program improvement.

Establish
Stakeholders

Determine
Priorities

Analyze
Elements

Adopt.
Adapt.
Develop

Pilot
Assessment

Perform Item
Analysis

Set Cut
Score

Implement
and Improve

Resources & Services

- Facilitate and Manage Special Projects
- Resource & Service Provider
 - Customized End-of-Program TSA's
 - Customized End-of-Course Pre/Post-Tests
 - Workplace Readiness Skills Assessment
 - Online Testing with TFI's E-SESS™
 - Online testing tool with instant reporting
 - Repository for item banking
 - Toolset to evaluate performance of items, assessments, and participants
 - Reporting tools for performance against standard sets

Updates & PR



- ❖ Assessment development and revalidation
- ❖ WRS statistics, trends, and expansion
- ❖ TCSG and Skills tests
- ❖ FADA
- ❖ Marketing forward

TCSG Project Update I – Skills Testing

New Developments

Create and Administrated nine technical assessments based on Skills USA technical standards for official Contests in the State of Georgia for the Technical College System of Georgia

- ❖ Architectural Drafting
- ❖ Cosmetology
- ❖ Crime Scene Investigation
- ❖ Criminal Justice
- ❖ Culinary Arts
- ❖ Early Childhood Education
- ❖ Medical Assisting
- ❖ Technical Drafting
- ❖ Welding

TCSG Project Update II

- **Improvements and Challenges**
 - Overall strong increase in enrollment and marked increase in testing
 - Testing started much earlier and finished later in the year
 - Intro to Healthcare jumped from 36 to 109 students tested
 - Intro to Computers jumped from 83 to 168 with 48 students passing
 - Low pass rates especially with Accounting, ECCE, Marketing and Culinary
 - TSA/Proctor Agreements
 - Project and Testing Awareness
 - Better Collaboration in Project and in Limiting Curricular Gaps
 - Finishing Assessment Development and New Work for Round III

CTECS revalidations & maintenance

- Feedback segment of the Systems Design Model
- Requires input of all stakeholders
- Ability to make an assessment and bank better in progress
- Psychometrician review and guidance

The Need for Workplace Readiness Skills

- Call from employers
- Teens were not receiving work experience from summer jobs—down 30% over the last 30 years
- Inconsistent support for career education
- **Perkins IV (2006)—accountability**
- U.S. economic recession of 2008 (banking, housing, jobs)
- The changing ways we work together
- The changing ways we must prepare the next generation of workers—the skills gap

2009: Create the Workplace Readiness Skills Standards List

- Virginia Department of Education
- Demographics and Workforce Group of the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia
- Career and Technical Education Consortium of States (CTECS)
- Virginia's CTE Resource Center



21 Workplace Readiness Skills

Personal Qualities & People Skills

- Positive Work Ethic
- Integrity
- Teamwork
- Self-Representation
- Diversity Awareness
- Conflict Resolution
- Creativity & Resourcefulness

Technology Knowledge & Skills

- Job-Specific Technologies
- Information Technology
- Internet Use & Security
- Telecommunications

Professional Knowledge & Skills

- Speaking & Listening
- Reading & Writing
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Health & Safety
- Organizations, Systems, & Climates
- Lifelong Learning
- Job Acquisition & Advancement
- Time, Task, & Resource Management
- Mathematics
- Customer Service

The WRS List is the Best in the U.S. and Beyond

- ❖ Universal skills and behaviors targeted to the needs of the modern workplace
- ❖ Based on 25 years of local and national research and experience
- ❖ Accompanied by free, web-based curriculum

WRS Assessment Characteristics

- 100-item multiple-choice online test
- 60-minute timed test
- 75% cut score
- Text-to-speech feature and extended time for designated SWD and LEP students
- Instant results
- Certificate of successful completion provided and can be used for verified graduation credit

Benefits: The CTECS Workplace Readiness Skills Program

- There is no better or more proven “employability” package available for **ALL career pathways** at the secondary level.
- Success indicates that students are **better prepared** to join the workforce.
- **Accountability**. Perkins legislation requires emphasis of employability skills.
- **Free web-based curriculum resources** accompany the WRS standards (or skill set) that formed the basis for the assessment.
- WRS standards clearly define what teachers have been teaching for years as part of CTE programs, but now in a **concentrated, heavily researched, precise form**.
- The WRS standards make it easier to deliver career education and the **assessment provides a measurement** of that delivery.