



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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April 28, 2023

Department of Education
Office of the Secretary
Attn: Regulation Review
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, DE 19901

RE: 26 DE Reg. 798/14 DE Admin. Code 525 DDOE Requirements for Career and Technical Education Programs of Study regulation (April 1, 2023)

Dear Secretary Holodick:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) proposal to amend 14 Del. Admin. C. §525, which governs the requirements for career and technical education (CTE) programs of study. The proposed amendment will accomplish the following: (1) strike defined terms from Section 2.0 and move one defined term to the body of the regulation; (2) revise the criteria for programs of study by adding language related to social and emotional competencies (SEL) in subsection 3.2; and (3) revise the requirements for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in subsections 4.2.1.2, 4.2.2.7, and 5.2. Council **supports** the proposed amendments.

Data collected on CTE programs shows that students with disabilities who participate in CTE programs made significant progress academically, are more likely to graduate, and are more likely to attain employment upon graduation. Therefore, these regulations (and any changes to them) have a direct impact on students and individuals with disabilities.

The proposed change in § 5.2.10 would add a requirement that LEAs award students one hour of instructional time for each hour of "career immersion experience." This proposed change provides additional support for students with disabilities to meet high school graduation requirements and merits the support of the Council.

The inclusion of SEL in CTE programs is a benefit for all students, especially students with disabilities. Council appreciates this change as well.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our comments and support with you. Please contact Pam Weir or me at the GACEC office if you have any questions on our comments.

Sincerely,

Ann C Fisher

Ann C. Fisher
Chairperson

ACF: kpc

CC: Shawn Brittingham, State Board of Education
Kathleen Smith, State Board of Education
Dale Matusevich, Department of Education
Emily Cunningham, Department of Education
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