



## Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

*The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) is the largest source of federal funding for Career Technical Education (CTE).*

### Why Business and Industry Support CTE

- CTE programs in secondary and postsecondary institutions are developing **America's most valuable re-source—its people**; helping them gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience they need to prepare for high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers.
- CTE is developing a **skilled, sustainable workforce** for American business and industry.
- Baby boomers will be retiring at the rate of thousands per day over the next two decades.
- Experts predict **47 million job openings** in the decade ending 2018. About two-thirds will require an associate's degree or certificate, and nearly all will require real-world skills that can be mastered through CTE.
- Secondary, postsecondary and adult CTE programs are developing the skilled workforce companies need to increase **productivity and competitiveness**.
- A workforce educated through CTE represents a complete range of career areas across the entire economy—and is **driven by the needs and demands of employers**.
- Well-trained and highly-skilled workers will be best positioned to secure high-wage jobs over the next decade.

### Cuts to Perkins and CTE: A Problem for Business & Industry

- Perkins was flat-funded from 2002 through 2011, and as a result, the program **lost 21 percent of its buying power** over that period due to inflation.
- Perkins was cut by \$140.2 million (11 percent) in the FY 2011 budget, bringing total appropriations for CTE down to \$1.1 billion.
- President Barack Obama's FY 2012 budget proposed to increase overall Department of Education funding by \$2 billion, yet there were **significant cuts to Perkins** that would decrease total FY 2012 appropriations to \$1 billion.
- Cuts to Perkins-funded CTE programs will reduce the number of educated, skilled workers entering the workforce at a time when the nation needs to create jobs and rebuild its economy.
- Without critical Perkins funding, CTE programs will not be able to feed the productivity of local employers, **reducing Business and Industry profitability and limiting expansion** of the community base of corporate and payroll tax revenues.