

**CHAPTER 19**  
**VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
**PROGRAMS AND STANDARDS**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-10, 18A:4-15, 18A:4-16, 18A:4-24, 18A:4-25 through 4-27, 18A:4-32, 18A:4-34, 18A:6-9, 18A:7A-1 et seq., 18A:33-1 et seq., 18A:40-12.1 and 12.2, 18A:54-1 et seq., 18A:59-5; 34:15C-3; 29 C.F.R. Subpart C of Part 570; 20 U.S.C. §§ 2301 et seq., P.L. 105-220.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.  
 See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 19, Vocational-Technical Education Programs and Standards, expires November 20, 2006.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 19, Vocational-Technical Education Programs and Standards, was originally codified in Title 6 as Chapter 43, Vocational and Technical Education Programs and Standards, Chapter 51, Administration and Organization of Vocational and Technical Education, and Chapter 53, Vocational Education Safety and Health Standards. Chapter 19, Vocational-Technical Education Programs and Standards, was adopted as R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001. See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a). See, also, Chapter Historical Notes at N.J.A.C. 6:43, 6:51, and 6:53.

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#### SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### 6A:19-1.1 Purpose and scope

(a) The rules in this chapter delineate the State system of vocational-technical education whose purpose is to develop the academic, vocational and technical skills of secondary and postsecondary school students who elect to enroll in vocational-technical education programs by preparing them for:

1. Career preparation and gainful employment;
2. Lifelong learning and training supplemental to daily employment; and
3. Productive citizenship.

(b) To assure standards and procedures, the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education have developed these rules in conformity with relevant Federal and State statutes concerning public education, vocational-technical education, county vocational schools, the workforce development system, child labor laws and the State Employment and Training Commission.

(c) This chapter specifies standards and procedures regarding vocational-technical education, specifically in the areas of:

1. Instruction;

2. Contracting between district boards of education and other providers of vocational-technical education programs;

3. Programs and services for students with disabilities and for students whose achievement in vocational-technical education programs is limited because of temporary academic or economic factors;

4. Accountability;

5. Planning;

6. Program course approval; and

7. Safety and health standards to govern the use of tools, machines, equipment, protective devices and hazardous substances in vocational-technical education programs and courses, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, 18A:33-1 et seq., 18A:40-12.1, 18A:40-12.2 and 18A:54-1 et seq.

Amended by R.1991 d.404, effective August 5, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1246(a), 23 N.J.R. 2331(c).

Corrected title, formerly Commission on Employment and Training.

Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).

Rewrote the section.

##### 6A:19-1.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Academically or economically limited student” means a student who, because of economic or academic reasons, requires temporary special services and assistance in order to succeed in vocational-technical education programs. Such students may include:

1. Students who are members of economically limited families;
2. Students who are migrant workers or from migrant families;
3. Students who have limited English proficiency;
4. Students who are dropouts from, or who are identified as potential dropouts from, secondary schools; and
5. Students from Abbott school districts who require special services and assistance in order to succeed in vocational-technical education programs.

“Act” means the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998, 20 U.S.C. §§ 2301 et seq.

“Alternate plan” means an educational plan prepared by the district board of education responsible for the student, and shall include educational activities in replacement of the on-the-job training portion of cooperative vocational-technical education during a temporary period of unemployment.

(f) VSO programs and events shall reflect current industry-based standards and competencies for the career clusters they serve.

(g) The VSO shall offer professional development activities to local advisors to strengthen instructional programs.

Amended by R.1990 d.451, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1705(a), 22 N.J.R. 2694(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 6:43-2.11; new (b)-(e) added.

Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).

Rewrote (a) and (c); in (d), substituted "VSO" for "vocational student organization"; added (f) and (g).

#### 6A:19-6.11 Statewide data bank

(a) The Department of Education shall establish a comprehensive Statewide data bank to collect information on students (including general education and special education disaggregated) from district boards of education and other providers of vocational-technical education, employers, graduates and other State agencies. The districts and other providers shall report information on:

1. Enrollments;
2. Program completions;
3. Job placements;
4. Employer satisfaction with job performance of vocational-technical school program completers;
5. Salaries;
6. Promotions;
7. Continuing education;
8. Entry into military service;
9. Employer and business or industry training needs; and
10. Such other data as necessary to strengthen vocational-technical education instruction and to improve pupil achievement.

(b) District boards of education shall provide such data to the Department of Education on forms provided by the Department.

New Rule, R.1990 d.451, effective September 4, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 1705(a), 22 N.J.R. 2694(a).

Amended by R.1999 d.51, effective February 16, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 3623(a), 31 N.J.R. 537(a).

In (a), substituted a reference to the Department of Education for a reference to the Division of Vocational Education in the introductory paragraph.

Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).

In (a), rewrote the introductory paragraph, inserted "technical" following "vocational" throughout, added new 7 and 8 and recodified former 7 and 8 as 9 and 10.

#### 6A:19-6.12 Employment placement standards

(a) The Commissioner shall establish annual minimum employment placement standards for district boards of edu-

cation whose students are enrolled in vocational-technical education programs.

(b) The Commissioner shall notify district boards of education of annual minimum employment placement standards.

(c) Districts shall be responsible for meeting minimum job placement standards for vocational-technical students.

(d) Vocational-technical students in the following categories will be considered employment placements:

1. Vocational-technical students who have been placed full-time in the occupation or related field in which they were trained;
2. Vocational-technical students who have passed occupational competency tests for entry level employment skills and have entered the military service;
3. Vocational-technical students entering full-time postsecondary education in the program area or related field in which they were trained;
4. Special needs students who have met alternative assessments for occupational competencies or individualized education program (IEP) assessments established by the district board of education;
5. Vocational-technical students who are employed a minimum of 20 hours per week in the occupation or related field in which they were trained and who are enrolled in postsecondary education for a minimum of 12 credit hours per academic year in the program area or related field in which they were trained; and
6. Vocational-technical students who are employed part-time an average of 20 hours per week or more in the occupation or related field in which they were trained.

(e) Vocational-technical students not considered placements include:

1. Vocational-technical students who are unemployed;
2. Vocational-technical students who work fewer than 20 hours per week; and
3. Vocational-technical students who are employed in an occupation or field not related to their training.

(f) All other students shall not be included in calculations for job placements.

(g) District boards of education shall report employment placement rates of vocational-technical education students to the Department of Education on forms provided by the Department.

(h) If the district reports placement rates below the established employment placement standards for two consecutive years, the district board of education shall be required to submit a two-year program improvement plan to overcome program deficiencies.

1. Occupational competency assessment data shall be included in the development of the program improvement plan.

2. The program improvement plan shall be submitted within 90 days following written notification by the Commissioner or his or her designate that such a plan is required.

3. Prior to the submission of the program improvement plan to the Commissioner, the plan shall be approved by the district board of education and submitted to the county superintendent for review and approval.

4. The county superintendent shall periodically review the progress of the district in meeting the objectives and in implementing the program improvement plan.

5. The district shall have two years following approval of the plan by the Commissioner to complete remediation and to overcome program deficiencies.

6. In preparing the program improvement plan, the district shall review its programs based upon factors including, but not limited to, vocational pupil mastery of occupational competencies, inappropriate or inadequate training, pupil recruitment, placement deficiencies, market sensitivity and program cost effectiveness. Other indicators which might influence job placement which could be cited might include, but not be limited to, inadequate pay scales, economic trends and fluctuations transportation difficulties, existing and unanticipated local or regional occupational supply and demand.

(i) If the district fails to implement the program improvement plan or fails to overcome program deficiencies for meeting minimum employment placement standards within two years of approval of the plan by the Commissioner, the county superintendent, in consultation with the Director, Office of School-to-Career and College Initiatives may recommend that the Commissioner issue an order requiring the district to show cause as to why the program should not be discontinued.

Amended by R.1991 d.404, effective August 5, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1246(a), 23 N.J.R. 2331(c).  
Amended by R.1999 d.51, effective February 16, 1999.  
See: 30 N.J.R. 3623(a), 31 N.J.R. 537(a).  
Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).  
Rewrote the section.

## SUBCHAPTER 7. LOCAL APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS

### 6A:19-7.1 Application procedures

District boards of education and other eligible agencies or institutions conducting vocational-technical education programs desiring to participate in grant programs shall make application for funds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.2(b), to the New Jersey State Department of Education on forms provided by the Department.

Amended by R.1991 d.406, effective August 5, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1250(a), 23 N.J.R. 2333(a).  
Editorial and terminology changes.  
Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 6A:19-7.2 Opportunity for hearings on local applications

The State Board of Education assures that reasonable notice and opportunity for hearings on local applications shall be given to any district board of education or other eligible agency or institution conducting vocational-technical education programs, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.2(b)4.

Amended by R.1991 d.406, effective August 5, 1991.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1250(a), 23 N.J.R. 2333(a).  
Reference to Appeals process at N.J.A.C. 6:2 added.  
Amended by R.1998 d.38, effective January 5, 1998.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 4221(b), 30 N.J.R. 67(b).  
Added references to State Director of Vocational Education.  
Amended by R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).  
Rewrote the section.

## SUBCHAPTER 8. VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AND COURSE APPROVAL

### 6A:19-8.1 Program approval process: adoption by reference

(a) The standards contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2, The Core Curriculum Content Standards, are adopted as program approval standards for vocational-technical education programs and courses.

(b) The standards are available for review at the Department of Education, 100 Riverview Plaza, PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500.

(c) Program approval applications from prospective charter schools shall be reviewed prior to the granting of the charter. Conditional approval may be granted, with a final approval determined during the first year of the school's operation.

New Rule, R.2001 d.473, effective December 17, 2001.  
See: 33 N.J.R. 2770(a), 33 N.J.R. 3280(a), 33 N.J.R. 4319(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 9. APPRENTICE TRAINING

### 6A:19-9.1 Apprentice program responsibilities and duties

(a) The Department is the State apprenticeship agency and is responsible for apprenticeship registration and the administration of the related training and instruction portion of apprentice programs. This training and instruction must comply with Federal standards of apprenticeship as published in the Labor Standards for the Registration of Apprenticeship Programs, 29 CFR §§ 29.29 and 29.30, and be in conformance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.