

(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

(a) 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 P.L. 105-332, to the New Jersey State Department of Education on forms provided by the Department.

(b) The State Board, in concordance with P.L. 105-332, will include in the State Plan for Vocational Education authorization for the Commissioner to withhold from district boards of education State and Federal funds for activities in any component programs included in N.J.S.A. 18A:54-1 et seq. when the following conditions exist:

1. The program is unapproved;
2. The activities are being implemented in a manner inconsistent with the State Plan for Vocational Education;
3. Students participating in external paid or unpaid structured learning experiences are exploited, illegally employed, or employed under conditions which do not provide for their health and safety; or
4. Teachers are not appropriately certified according to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-13.

(c) The State Board of Education assures that any district board of education and other eligible institution or agency conducting vocational-technical education programs dissatisfied with final action on any applications for funds shall be given reasonable notice and may appeal the decision as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.

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.
Amended by R.2005 d.213, effective July 5, 2005.
See: 37 N.J.R. 883(a), 37 N.J.R. 2487(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

(a) The State Board will adopt a State Plan for Vocational Education pursuant to P.L. 105-332.

(b) The State Board will include in the State Plan for Vocational Education, in concordance with P.L. 105-332, authorization for the Commissioner to establish a program-approval system for aligning vocational-technical education programs with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2, The Core Curriculum Content Standards, and the educational delivery systems from grade nine through grade 12 at the local, county, regional, and State levels. Program approval is required for vocational-technical education programs offered by school districts with approved vocational schools, comprehensive high schools, county vocational schools, and other agencies offering secondary or non-collegiate postsecondary programs. The program-approval system shall include the following:

1. District boards of education shall identify the need for vocational-technical education programs of instruction through identification of the latest labor-market demand data, the results of employer surveys, and the use of an advisory committee to plan for and operate the program;

2. District boards of education seeking to establish any new vocational-technical education programs shall request recommendations from the appropriate Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to minimize duplication of programs and to foster a unified delivery system;

3. District boards of education, upon verification of the local need to offer a vocational-technical education program and recommendation of the WIB, shall submit a completed Vocational-Technical Education Program Approval Request to the Department of Education. The Program Approval Request will include the following: program title; occupational objective of the program; documentation of the need for the program; program advisory committee; admission requirements; program structure; instructional staff plans; enrollment projections; curriculum outline; participation in vocational student organizations; facilities and equipment required; program costs; career guidance and counseling provisions; linkage programs involved; participation of special populations; evaluation; and impact on institutional capacity;

4. The Commissioner shall approve or disapprove the district board of education's request to offer a vocational-technical education program. Approval or disapproval will be based on the completeness of the application and the

inclusion of data which support the establishment of the program;

5. The Commissioner, in approving programs with a regional or State designation, shall establish the criteria for admitting students from outside the school district and/or county. The admission requirements will include at least minimum academic and occupational competencies, based on the Core Curriculum Content Standards and an industry-verified competency list; and

6. District boards of education dissatisfied with the decision on the request for a vocational-technical education program approval may appeal the decision as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.

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

(d) 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).
Amended by R.2005 d.213, effective July 5, 2005 .
See: 37 N.J.R. 883(a), 37 N.J.R. 2487(a).
Rewrote the section.

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.