Guilford County Schools Application for Career & Technical Education (CTE)
State/Federal Funding-Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Executive Summary

PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION: This application must be submitted to the Department of Public Instruction in order to receive and use state and federal funds for Career & Technical Education programs and services in grades 6-12 for the 2008-2009 school year. This application describes the manner in which we propose to use these funds in compliance with the purposes mandated by state and federal legislation. Those purposes are: (1) To prepare students for postsecondary education in career-technical fields and lifelong learning, (2) To prepare students for initial and continued employment, (3) To assist students in making educational and career decisions, (4) To apply and reinforce related learning from other disciplines, (5) To assist students in developing decision-making, communication, problem-solving, leadership, and citizenship skills, (6) To prepare students to make informed consumer decisions and apply practical life skills, and (7) To make appropriate provisions for students with special needs to succeed in Career & Technical Education programs.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION: Local plan assurances - Local School Board's approval, indicating that the following legal assurances will be met, is required before funding application is approved:

A. The purposes of Career & Technical Education as established in Chapter 115C, Article 10 of the NC General Statutes are adhered to in planning, designing, implementing, supervising and evaluating the Career & Technical Education programs within this local education agency. (LEA). (S.) (Article 10 Part 1 Section 115C-151)
B. Career & Technical Education programs are supervised, directed, or coordinated by persons qualified under the State Board of Education policies. (S. 115C-154. (6) and (7))
C. The LEA will provide free appropriate Career & Technical Education instruction, activities, and services in accordance with this Part for all youth who elect the instruction and shall have responsibility for administering the instruction, activities, and services in accordance with Federal and State law and State Board of Education policies (S. 115C-157)
D. The LEA will provide activities necessary for the proper and efficient performance of its duties under P.L. 109-270 (Perkins IV), including supervision (F. 134)
E. The expenditures in this plan will adhere to the most recent NC Career & Technical Education (CTE) Fiscal and Policy Guide. (S 115C-154(9); 115C-156)
F. The programs in this plan will adhere to the most recent NC Career & Technical Education Standard Course of Study and Support Services Guide. (S 115C-154)
G. Nothing in Perkins IV shall be construed to be inconsistent with applicable Federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, age, or disability in the provision of Federal programs or services. (F. Section 316)
H. Nothing in Perkins IV shall be construed by the LEA to permit, allow, encourage, or authorize any Federal control over any aspect of a private, religious, or home school, regardless of whether a home school is treated as a private school or home school under State law. This section shall not be construed to bar students attending private, religious, or home schools from participation in programs or services under this Act. (F. 317)

[State legal requirements are designated by an (S) and Federal Perkins IV by an (F).]

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH THESE FUNDS:
Career & Technical Education programs and services supported through these funds are offered at all 15 Guilford County comprehensive high schools, Weaver Academy, the Academy at Smith, and the Academy at HPC and all middle schools. During the current school year, 18,175 high school students and 17,790 middle

school students took at least one Career & Technical Education class in Guilford County. A total of 290 staff positions are funded through the funds provided by this application. At the high schools, students have access to programs designed to focus on the purposes defined above. These programs are in Agricultural Education, Business Education, Information Technology Education, Career Development, Family & Consumer Sciences Education, Marketing Education, Technology Education, Health Occupations Education, and Trade & Industrial Education. A total of 89 Career & Technical Education courses are offered in Guilford County Schools and supported by these funds.

ANTICIPATED RESOURCES FOR FY 2008-2009:

Tentative planning allocations of federal and state resources indicate that Guilford County Schools will receive about the same categorical funding as last year for Career & Technical Education. Our state months-of-employment (PRC 013) is projected to be $17,328,897.00 and will fund the salaries of 290 Career & Technical Education teaching positions. State Program Support funding (PRC 014) is projected to be $935,681.00 and will be used to provide operational funds for such things as computers, software, specialized instructional materials, small equipment items, staff development, Career & Technical Education assessment and curriculum development. Our Federal Program Improvement funding (PRC 017) is projected to be $1,018,836.00 and will be used to purchase equipment and technology to improve, expand, and modernize Career & Technical Education programs and initiate Career & Technical Education programs that lead to high skill, high-wage or high demand occupations as mandated by the Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES AND PRIORITIES FOR 2008-2009:

The major focus of the programs and activities for the Career & Technical Education programs funded through this application will continue to be on the full implementation of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Career and Technical Education. Major emphasis will be placed on continuous improvement in Career & Technical Education as described in the overall strategies listed in the CTE Local Planning System (LPS) pages 6 through 36. Examples of major strategies for 2008-2009 school year are listed below:

- The Career-Technical Education staff will continue to provide resources (personnel, equipment, instructional supplies, software, etc.) to insure that quality and state-of-the-art Career-Technical course sequences are being offered with appropriate cooperative, apprenticeship, and work-based learning opportunities.
- Career and Technical Education personnel will provide staff development in the use of the VoCATS Instructional Management System to improve instruction. Training will target schools with low student achievement on the CTE end-of-course post-assessments.
- The CTE director will provide financial support for participation in the CTE Summer Conference and other staff development activities that would foster the integration of applied mathematics, reading, writing, and academic attainment strategies.
- The CTE director and staff will develop, publish, and distribute CTP guidance materials to 8th, 9th and 10th graders to assist in enrolling them in appropriate CTP courses of study based on their interests and career plans.
- The CTE staff will provide computers, equipment, instructional materials, and staff development to allow teachers to use a variety of instructional methods and activities to help students achieve the goals of industry certifications and entrance into post-secondary training or employment.
- The CTE staff will collaborate with CTP Business Councils to expand the development of career academies to provide opportunities for students to complete a high school diploma and an AAS degree in five years.
- The CTE staff will collaborate with CTP Business Councils to expand articulated 4+2+2 courses of study between GCS, GTCC, and local universities to provide students with additional opportunities to transition to post-secondary degree programs.
- The CTE staff and teachers will continue the development and implementation of College Tech Prep apprenticeships, internships, cooperative and other work-related programs and activities to increase

student achievement necessary for successful employment.

- The CTE staff, CTP business council chairpersons, and GTCC reps will meet regularly to strengthen and expand the partnership between secondary education, post-secondary education, and the business community to insure students a smooth transition to post-secondary education and future employment.
- The CTE staff and career development coordinators will conduct a follow-up survey of CTP completers one year after graduation to determine educational and employment status.

LOCAL PERFORMANCE-BASED IMPROVEMENT PLAN: Part II of the Application, pages 6 – 38, consists of eight performance indicators. Since this is the first year of operation under the new Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006, note that benchmark (B1, B2, etc.) and actual attainment (A1, A2, etc.) scores are not listed. These scores will be populated in the LPS by the State Department of Public Instruction after CTE and other end-of-course tests have be uploaded and disaggregated by SDPI staff. We are required to amend the application annually in October to reflect changes and strategies that may be necessary after end-of-year data has been incorporated.

Under the new Perkins IV legislation which will take effect for school year 2008-09, it is our understanding that economic sanctions will occur if performance benchmarks are not met. At this point, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has not negotiated a final plan with the US Department of Education as to the process and timeframe when these sanctions will occur.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE APPLICATION IS NOT APPROVED OR IF FEDERAL FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE: Guilford County Schools would face a loss of a total of $19,283,414.00 in categorical Career & Technical Education federal and state funds. Local funds would have to be used to fund Career & Technical programs or these programs would have to be eliminated.