

The Wednesday Reader

March 1, 2017

Perkins 2016-2017 CTE Spring Data Collection – Time to Identify CTE Concentrators

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2017 and ends April 28, 2017. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2016-2017 school year who meet the definition of a Career & Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently, enrolled CTE courses count towards credits earned.

CTE Concentrators must have the 'CTE Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system. If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the Secondary CTE webpage located at this link:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pub/AIM/Collections/CareerTechnicalEducation/SpringCTECollectionGuide.pdf>.

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or send an email to opiainhelp@mt.gov.

Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Christy Hendricks at 406-444-9019 or email her at: chendricks@mt.gov.

Thank you so much for all you do from everyone at the Career and Technical Education Division of The Office of Public Instruction.

Today is Deadline to Apply – 4-Year STEM Scholarship at University of Great Falls

The University of Great Falls and the National Science Foundation are offering 4-year S-STEM scholarships to Montana high school seniors interested in pursuing careers in STEM.

The scholarship is renewable and is for students majoring in chemistry, biology, or math.

The deadline to apply is March 1, 2017. View the application packet [here](#) for additional information.

Resources Available for National Consumer Protection Week – March 5-11

Sponsored by the Federal Trade Commission, [National Consumer Protection Week](#) (NCPW), March 5-11, 2017, is a time when consumer protection groups and others come together to help people understand their consumer rights, make well-informed decisions about money, and spot scams.

[NCPW](#), through a network of national organizations, and state and local partners, offers numerous resources to help plan an event or spread the word about consumer protection. At NCPW.gov, you can learn how to reach local press, share pre-written social media messages, and personalize a sample article promoting NCPW in your

community. You can also visit [NCPW](#) partner websites to learn about consumer protection issues. To order free consumer education materials for an upcoming event, visit bulkorder.ftc.gov.

NCPW is a great time to reach out to people in the military community about consumer protection. The new Military Consumer Toolkit can help. Military Consumer is a financial readiness tool that helps service members and their families stay mission-ready at home and abroad. Visit Military.Consumer.gov for more information

Free Access to the Codio Platform for Professional Development – Join CTSA Today for Free as Well

Have you been looking for a way to flip your classroom? Or do you need a strategy to differentiate instruction for various groups of students during a class period? These are challenges we all face. Codio (codio.com) offers solutions.

Codio is a web-based computer science (CS) teaching and learning platform. One of the cool features is the option to have a split screen where students and/or you can run a program (in Codio, no other IDE needed) and have a learning environment open at the same time. In the split screen, you can make changes to the code and rerun the program to observe the results. This interactive IDE, with a full learning management system, might be just what you need.

Thanks to a partnership with Codio that was announced at the 2016 Annual CSTA Conference, [CSTA members have free access to the Codio platform for professional development](#). This means you can try it out for yourself to explore or learn a new coding language. Courses that introduce Java, Python, Assembly, JavaScript, HTML, MySQL, and Linux, are available now. Soon, a suite of middle school and high school courses aligned with the *interim 2016 CSTA K–12 Computer Science Standards* will also be available to you.

Because Codio is a web-based programming environment, you can connect to a robust set of development tools. Whether you're programming in Java, Python, C++, or Flode (a visual flowchart language), the system allows you to create, debug, and run code. Anything you can do in Ubuntu Linux can be done in your browser through Codio. And web services with database backends can be configured with the push of a button.

With a paid plan, members can also use Codio with their students. You have the options of assigning one of the off-the-shelf courses provided by the platform, creating your own course, or assigning a mixture. Codio allows teachers to see live student progress through the classroom dashboard.

With auto-graded programming assignments, teachers and students get immediate feedback, but teachers can also view the details of all student submissions. If you have experience teaching CS and are comfortable in a digital-learning environment, you can author your own "Guides." These are like pages of an online textbook that link to the programming environment, allowing you to introduce concepts and provide students with interactive experiences. Codio also has a rich assessment editor that connects to the classroom dashboard automatically, enabling meaningful and timely feedback to students.

Whether you're just getting started as a CS educator or you've been teaching for years, we recommend you check out this membership benefit. To get started with a free Codio account with full access for professional development purposes, complete the form at: email.codio.com/join-codio-for-professional-development-csta.

If you are not currently a member of the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), you can join for free today. Sign up at csteachers.org/page/IndividualMembership.

Do You Teach B-Law or Street Law? Apply of the Supreme Court Summer Institute for Teachers

Since it began in 1995, the [Supreme Court Summer Institute for Teachers](#) has brought together over 1,200 teachers from across the country to convene in Washington, D.C., for six days of educational activities related to teaching about the U.S. Supreme Court. The Institute is co-sponsored by the Supreme Court Historical Society.

The Institute includes sessions led by Supreme Court experts, journalists, authors, and lawyers, who give teachers an in-depth understanding of how the Court chooses and decides cases, and what it is like to argue before the Court. The Institute covers six current or recent cases, and teachers even learn about the personalities of the justices. This exciting opportunity culminates with a visit to the Court to hear decisions handed down and a reception at the Court.

The Institute prepares teachers to use innovative methods to teach about both current and historical cases. Beyond the content-rich sessions and activities, teachers are also equipped with the skills and tools to train fellow teachers at home.

Two Summer Institutes will be held in 2017: June 15-20 and June 22-27.

- 30 teachers from across the country will be accepted for each Institute (60 total)
- Admission is based on a competitive application process
- Applicants must teach or supervise secondary social studies or law-related education
- Applicants must commit to attend all sessions and train other secondary school teachers
- Teachers who have already attended one of Street Law's Supreme Court Institutes or Seminars are not eligible for this program
- Applicants from ethnic and racial minorities, people teaching in urban schools or on Native American reservations, and people new to the teaching profession are encouraged to apply.
- Participants in the 2017 Institute are expected to participate in the program evaluation by responding to one brief survey.

For complete information about the [Supreme Court Institute for Teachers](#), please visit http://streetlaw.org/en/CalendarEvent/161/2017_Supreme_Court_Summer_Institute_for_Teachers. Registration for the 2017 Institute closes March 13, 2017.

Virtual Business Scholarship Opportunity for Students Worth \$2000

Each year Knowledge Matters offers a Virtual Business Scholarship opportunity that you have so kindly shared with the business, marketing and finance high school educators within your state. Would you be willing to do the same this year?

The Virtual Business Scholarship application is available online at <https://knowledgematters.com/about/scholarships/>.

The scholarship is for high school business, marketing and personal finance students currently enrolled in their junior and senior years of high school throughout the United States. This scholarship is intended to help eligible applicants defray the costs of their continuing education.

The scholarship applications will be judged nationally and the winner will receive \$2,000.

Applications Now Open for 2017 Next Gen Personal Finance Summer Institute

Looking for great professional development opportunities this summer? The [Next Gen Personal Finance \(NGPF\) Summer Institute](http://nextgenpersonalfinance.org/summer-institute) (nextgenpersonalfinance.org/summer-institute) may be what you are looking for.

NGPF is excited to announce applications for the Summer Institute 2017 are now open.

What To Expect at Summer Institute

An opportunity to collaborate with eleven other passionate, dedicated, innovative personal finance educators which will result in relationships that extend well beyond the Institute. Meaningful, relevant workshops delivered by the NGPF team, as well as special guest presenters. For example, last year we visited the Stanford d-school for a session on design thinking. A one-year commitment where you will serve as an NGPF Fellow, sharing your expertise with the educator community. All expenses paid, including transportation, hotel accommodations, all meals, and a few fun events around town. A lot of hard work and a lot of fun.

Who Should Apply

[NGPF](http://nextgenpersonalfinance.org) (nextgenpersonalfinance.org) anticipates selecting teachers with a diverse set of experiences. For example last year's Summer Institute had 12 participants hailing from 11 states who came from a variety of school types (public, charter, and private), settings (rural, suburban, and urban); and had different levels of teaching experience.

Applicants must:

- Be current US high school personal finance teachers or teacher-educators
- Be able to travel to our Palo Alto, California, office where the Summer Institute will be held
- Participate in all sessions during the 2 1/2 day professional development including a Welcome Dinner on the Sunday of your arrival
- Serve as an NGPF Fellow for the 2017-2018 school year (details to be provided)
- Submit a completed application by March 3, 2017

For insight into how selections were made last year, read NGPF [Application Tips For Summer Institute 2017](#).

Due to the number of high quality applicants received last year, in 2017 NGPF will be hosting TWO Summer Institutes—that means 24 educators will have the opportunity this summer.

Here are the Summer Institute dates:

- June 25-28, 2017
- July 16-19, 2017

Applications close March 3, 2017. Apply today. Questions? Contact Laura at laura@nextgenpersonalfinance.org.

Apply directly at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf2ik_4p2sYZDuASZJnZWiiCX9hJIfSyIoeOVGmuu-xs9HOPA/viewform.

EverFi Announces New Schools Manager

Did you know that over 5,000 Montana students used an EverFi course just last semester?

EverFi (www.everfi.com) is proud to introduce Cari Turner, EverFi's new Schools Manager based in Helena, Montana. Moving forward, Cari will be the main point of contact for your school & district. Mick Karls will still be with EverFi, working with sponsoring organizations throughout the West.

Cari is a former middle and high school teacher and math coach. Cari is here to make sure your experience with EverFi is top notch, so don't hesitate to reach out. Cari can be reached at cturner@everfi.com or by calling 406.204.2224.

EverFi looks forward to working with you in 2017.

New Course – Joy & Beauty of Data at MSU Bozeman with Funding Available for Teachers

Montana State University (MSU) will offer a new Master of Science in Science Education (MSSE) course for Montana teachers, "Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data," July 17-21, 2017 on MSU's campus in Bozeman.

The 2-credit course is intended for 7-12th grade teachers who want to learn how to incorporate computational ideas in the classroom. In addition, teachers who take the course will be introduced to the broad area of data science and will extend their knowledge of the Python programming language.

Please note: Joy and Beauty of Computing is a prerequisite in order to participate in the Joy and Beauty of Data.

High school teachers who complete the course can potentially teach CSCI 1xx, The Joy and Beauty of Data, as a dual enrollment course.

The course builds upon the pre-requisite course, "Joy and Beauty of Computing," previously offered at MSU (2014-2016) and offered this summer at the University of Montana.

The course will be taught by Dr. John Paxton, Director, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University.

Support for Montana teachers is available. For more information and how to apply, please contact Diana Paterson, MSSE Associate Director at 406.994.5679 or msse@montana.edu.

Joy & Beauty of Computing Workshop @ UofM – Travel Funds & Stipends Available

The University of Montana will be hosting a Joy and Beauty of Computing workshop on the University of Montana campus in Missoula June 12-16, 2107.

The workshop will focus on Computational Thinking, Python programming, and Topics in Computer Science. A sample curriculum can be viewed at cs.montana.edu/paxton/classes/joy-and-beauty/. Plan to attend and learn the Joy and Beauty of Computing curriculum so you can offer the course at your high school, potentially as dual enrollment.

This workshop is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant no. CNS-1639841. Funds are available to help cover travel as well as stipends of \$1000 each to offer to over 15 accepted participants.

Instructors for this event include Yolanda Reimer (University of Montana), Jeff Braun (Montana Tech), Tim Olson (Salish Kootenai College), and Qing Yang (Montana State University).

Participants must be willing to take a free online python course prior to arrival and attend two (2) follow-on weekend workshops in Missoula.

If interested, apply online at https://umt.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_aahKo3kpBXC5Ok5.

For more information, contact Yolanda Reimer at yonlanda.reimer@umontana.edu.

Save the Date--Economics Seminar for Teachers in Bozeman, June 14-16

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) is happy to announce—back by popular demand—the Economics Seminar for Teachers.

The Economics Seminar for Teachers will be held in Linfield Hall on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman, June 14-16. On-campus lodging will be available if needed.

The three-day professional development event will include professors and industry experts providing a program featuring the best practices in teaching economics at the high school level.

Participants will be able to earn OPI Certificate Renewal Units or one (1) 500 level college credit.

Registration will involve \$50 fee that will be refunded upon successful completion of the course.

Registration materials will be available soon. If interested in attending or if you have questions regarding the workshop, email mcee@montana.edu.

Join the Best of the West at the 2017 ACTE Region V Conference in Rapid City

The ACTE Region V Conference will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota, April 6-8, 2017. Join your fellow western-region Career & Technical Education professionals at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn for this year's event.

Registration is not open, with early-bird registration ending on March 1. Hotel rates at the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn are \$89 + tax.

For more information about the conference, including the [conference brochure](#), submitting a [Call for Presentations](#), or to complete your [online registration](#), please visit www.acteonline.org/regionv/#.WJDZDk0zWgc.

Planning to be a First-Time ACTE Region V Attendee? Would You Like \$500?

If this year's [2017 ACTE Region V Conference](#) will be your first time attendee at the Region V conference, be sure to apply for one of the stipends that are available.

Up to 10, \$500 stipends will be awarded for the 2017 conference in Rapid City, SD and the 2018 conference in Colorado. To be eligible for the \$500 stipend, you do need to attend both the 2017 and 2018 ACTE Region conferences.

Applications must be submitted by March 15 and are available at acte.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT01ODY4ODIyJnA9MSZ1PTc3MTYzMzkzNiZsaT00MDU5MjcyOQ/index.html.

EverFi Announces Six \$1,000 Scholarships for Financial Literacy

Did your students complete Vault or FutureSmart? Have them share what they learned in the [Student Blog Contest](#) for a chance to win a \$1,000 529 College Savings Scholarship.

Students completing the [FutureSmart](http://everfi.com/k12/future-smart) (everfi.com/k12/future-smart) middle school financial literacy course are eligible for 5 \$1,000 scholarships through the [National Blog Contest](#). Additionally, another \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded for students who have completed the course by March 31, 2017.

FutureSmart empowers students to effectively manage their finances, make sound decisions, and become stewards of their financial future. Through the story-based narrative, students play the mayor of a town as they help local citizens make real-life, personal finance decisions. Interactive exercises challenge students to make choices in real-life scenarios to achieve important goals around saving, education and career planning, and budgeting.

Built around the National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies and the National Jump\$tart Standards for Financial Literacy, this online course provides students with engaging and educational 21st century skills.

To learn more, contact Mick Karls of EverFi at 406.204.1148 or mick@everfi.com.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Vanuatu is a South Pacific Ocean nation made up of roughly 80 islands that stretch 1,300 kilometers/over 800 miles.

Vanuatu is roughly located between Fiji and Australia.

The islands offer scuba diving at coral reefs, underwater caverns and wrecks such as the WWII-era troopship SS President Coolidge.

Harborside Port Vila, the nation's capital and economic center, is on the island of Efate and is home to the Vanuatu National Museum, which explores the nation's Melanesian culture.

The Vanuatu islands were discovered and claimed in 1606 by Spain which had a short-lived settlement there before they were forgotten again.

The islands were rediscovered in 1768 and in 1774, Captain James Cook named them the New Hebrides.

The name of Vanuatu, from two local words meaning 'home' and 'stand' was adopted on independence in 1980.

The Vanuatu local language is a form of pidgin English known as Bislama

Vanuatu sent a team of five to the London 2012 Olympics; however, none progressed past the first round.

The Vanuatu national dish 'lap lap' is vegetable paste, coconut milk and meat cooked in a banana leaf

The ancient practice of land-diving (bungee jumping) originated on Vanuatu's Pentecost Island. The goal was to land close enough to the ground to just graze it with hair or shoulder. For those who survived, this proved their manhood and ensured a good yam harvest for the following season.

Vanuatu is situated directly on the Pacific "ring of fire" with two of the world's most active volcanoes found in the islands of Vanuatu (Yasur and Abrym) and they are open to the public.

During World War II the U.S. launched attacks from Vanuatu against Japanese troops in the Solomon Islands and New Guinea.

The Port Vila Golf and Country Club is presently the only 18-hole championship course in Vanuatu and hosts the premier international golfing event "The Tusker Vanuatu Golf Open" held each year that is sponsored by Tusker, Vanuatu's own world-class beer.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh