

The Wednesday Reader

October 4, 2017

Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection Begins—Time to Report on Status of 2017 Graduates for Perkins Funding

The Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection begins on October 1 and ends December 31, 2017. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection for Perkins grant reporting.

Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2016-2017) and graduated in the spring of 2017 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status. After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator.

All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2016-2017 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection—called the '*Quick Reference Guide*' for the Fall CTE Data Collection—are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page listed in AIM User Guides and also on the [CTE web page](#) under the '*Data Collections*' button.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to verify the list of CTE Concentrators from what your district submitted last spring. Any additions, corrections, or changes to the list of CTE Concentrators must be made no later than **November 1, 2017**, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your school.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email opiainhelp@mt.gov. Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email chendricks@mt.gov.

Updated Framework & OPI Course Codes Manual for Business & Marketing Education Available

The [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) has been updated for the 2017-2018 school year. Within the Framework, updates have been made to the competitive event crosswalks for Business Professionals of America and DECA. The updated crosswalks reflect updates and changes to the competitive event programs at the national level effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Framework for Business Education in Montana provides teachers with common guidance for curriculum development and course content development. Review and update work for the Framework for Business Education in Montana was by a committee Montana business education professionals representing all classifications of Montana High School as well as business education teacher program coordinators from the University of Montana and University of Montana Western and the State Directors for Business Professionals of America, Montana Association and Montana DECA.

The course information within the Framework is organized by Career Clusters with the Common Career Technical Core as the standards for each cluster. Additionally, course content is aligned to the *National Standards for Business Education* and is crosswalked to the *National Standards for Business Education* and to the competitive event programs for Business Professionals of America and DECA.

A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded from the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website at opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/Business-Education. If you would like to just download the BPA and DECA competitive event crosswalks, they can be downloaded at from the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website as well or directly at <https://goo.gl/6aAFKc>.

While on the [Business Education section](#) of the Montana OPI website, be sure to download the [Montana Business Education 2017-2018 Planning Calendar](#).

Also updated for the 2017-2018 school year is the [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#). The Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions are used for the reporting of course taught in all schools and at all grade levels via the OPI TEAMS school staffing system. Updates to this year's manual include the removal of duplicated courses to help streamline course identification and the removal of "other" courses and codes. Additionally, the manual includes a complete listing of Montana teacher licensure course codes.

Within TEAMS, all courses taught are identified and aligned to a national SCED Code with the local school course title listed as well as term type, enrollment numbers, and length of instruction. For Montana's Career & Technical Education programs, the TEAMS data is also used to generate the Montana CTE Student Participation Reports which are used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations.

The [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) can be download at <http://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/Career%20%26%20Technical%20Education/Docs/Business/BusMrktEdCourseCodesUpdated20170928.pdf>.

To assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI/SCED codes before the data is entered into TEAMS, a [TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet for Course Codes](#) worksheet is also available on the [Business Education section](#) of the Montana OPI website.

Additional information about the Framework for Business Education in Montana and the OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education will be presented during the [2017 Business Professionals of America, Montana Association Fall Leadership Conference](#), the [2017 New CTE Professionals Workshop](#) and the [2017 Montana ACTE Fall Institute](#).

If you have problems accessing any of the documents noted above, please contact Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson at eswenson@mt.gov.

[CTE 2017-2018 Perkins Grant Approval Reminder for Districts Applying for 2017-2018 Funding](#)

The CTE Division of the OPI is sending this brief, but friendly reminder to all districts intending to submit a 2017-2018 Perkins grant application to please obtain final OPI approval of your initial Perkins application through the E-Grants system no later than Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

Only the initial/original application is subject to this deadline. Amendments to approved Perkins applications can occur after the October date. If you have questions regarding the status of your Perkins grant application, please contact one of the following CTE Division staff:

--Shannon Boswell: phone: 406.444.4451; email: shannon.boswell@mt.gov
--Renee Erlandsen: phone: 406.994.6986; email: rerlandsen@mt.gov
--Christy Hendricks: phone: 406.444.9019; email: chendricks@mt.gov
--Don Michalsky: phone: 406.444.4452; email: dmichalsky@mt.gov
--Eric Swenson: phone: 406.444.7991; email: eswenson@mt.gov
--Megan Vincent: phone: 406.444.3599; email: mvincent2@mt.gov

Back to School... Back to Cyber—October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Celebrate Cyber Education with LifeJourney's NSA Day of Cyber during National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Summer is over and National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) - observed every October - is right around the corner, which makes this the perfect time to plan your "NSA Day of Cyber" day.

Choose a date this October to run the [NSA Day of Cyber \(nsadayofcyber.com\)](http://nsadayofcyber.com) online cyber career exploration experience in your classroom and connect your students to some of the most in-demand career opportunities in cybersecurity.

[Stop. Think. Connect.](http://stopthinkconnect.org)—the global online safety education and awareness campaign is the cornerstone of this month-long program to educate all consumers and businesses about the importance of cybersecurity and protecting personal information. Check out [Stop. Think. Connect.](http://stopthinkconnect.org) at stopthinkconnect.org.

Win a Trip and Get Recognized at the Kickoff of CSEdWeek 2017

Teachers and students have been at the heart of the amazing growth in computer science education, and now it is time to shine a light on those achievements. Share what you, your student, your school, and/or your district have accomplished this past year for the opportunity to be recognized at the kickoff event for Computer Science Education Week on December 4, 2017.

Example achievements:

A teacher doubled the number of students in a computer science program and increased the percentage of females and underrepresented minorities.

A student created an app that helps people in their community.

A school held a special Computer Science showcase for all students and their families.

A district made computer science mandatory for all incoming freshmen.

A new after-school club for elementary school students was created, and those students placed first in a regional competition.

Those selected will be awarded a trip to Palo Alto, CA to be recognized on stage at the kickoff of CSEdWeek. The awards event is a collaboration between the CSTA and Code.org. Selected students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This opportunity is only available for US submissions.

The nomination period opens October 2, 2017, and closes October 20, 2017, at 11:59 pm PT. Selections will be announced at the end of October. To be eligible, teachers must be employed at a K-12/pre-university school.

Nominate a student, your school, yourself, a fellow teacher/administrator/counselor, an organization, or after-school club, etc....the point is to celebrate computer science.

[Click here to submit an achievement](#)

Email awards@csteachers.org if you have any questions.

Register Your Students Today for the MCEE Stock Market Game

Want to facilitate learning that is exciting and fun for both you and your students? Those teachers that have participated know about the benefits of involving their classes in The Stock Market Game™ sponsored by the [Montana Council on Economic Education \(econedmontana.org\)](http://econedmontana.org).

The program is easy to administer, and teaches and reinforces these essential skills and concepts: Critical Thinking, Decision-making, Cooperation and Communication, Primary Research, and Saving and Investing.

Students use real internet research and news updates, making the simulation an even better mirror of the real marketplace. While the competitive gameplay creates student excitement, the educational experience delivers the biggest impact. Cash prizes are also awarded for the top three teams. Participation fees are \$15 per team (5 students maximum per team) and scholarships are available if funds are limited.

Registering Teams for the Stock Market Game: Competition begins on October 10, and runs for 10 weeks, with December 15 being the final trading day. To find out more information and register teams for competition, go to www.stockmarketgame.org, and click on the registration link in the center of the screen.

What students gain from The Stock Market Game™ program is a remarkable experience—and even more important, an education for life.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer, Associate Teaching Professor of Finance, Jake Jobs College of Business & Entrepreneurship, at timalz@montana.edu, or by telephone, (406) 994-2263.

Fall 2017 Montana High School Business Challenge Kicks Off October 11

The key to getting your students to understand key business concepts is through hands-on activity. If you've not yet done so, consider this simulation designed to develop management, financial, marketing and critical thinking skills in a competitive, learning enhanced environment.

The Montana High School Business Challenge, sponsored by the Montana Chamber Foundation and administered by the Montana Council for Economic Education lets your students actively participate in a state-wide simulation as real entrepreneurs. The students manage the business of a Digital Music Player manufacturer, and many daily decisions face the students, including financial, ethical, legal, and competitive issues. It is a dynamic simulation that can be incorporated into many different class disciplines.

The state-wide competition runs eight weeks, beginning Wednesday, October 11 and concluding Wednesday, December 13. College scholarships are awarded yearly to the top three teams, as determined by a year-end playoff. The cost is \$15.00 per team.

Registering Teams for Fall Semester? Questions?: To register teams for the fall Business Challenge competition or if you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer via e-mail, timalz@montana.edu, or by telephone, 994-2263 for further information. Team registration deadline is Wednesday, October 4.

First Time Participants: First-time participants need to be trained prior to involvement in the Business Challenge by webinar training sessions which introduces the teacher to the concepts and procedures the simulation. It will be held on Monday and Tuesday, October 2 and 3, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you are a first-time participant, or simply want to re-familiarize yourself with the fundamentals of the Business Challenge, please register online at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5913883104496834307>.

Refresher Webinar for Past Participants: A webinar is scheduled on Wednesday, October 4, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for teachers that have previously participated in the Challenge who want to refresh their skills and learn more about the simulation. This webinar is voluntary, and is open only to teachers that have previous HSBC involvement. Space is limited. The web address to register for this webinar is <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3282339462368498179>.

Questions Regarding the High School Business Challenge or Other MCEE Offerings?

During the 2017 Summer Meeting of the [Montana Council on Economic Education](#)'s Board Meeting, White Sulphur Springs business teacher Julie Hanson was elected the Classroom Teacher Representative to the MCEE Board.

Julie has extended an invitation to teachers to contact her if you have any questions about the Montana Council on Economic Education, the MCEE [Electronic Learning Modules](#) (ELMs), the High School Business Challenge, or the Economics Challenge held in Helena each March hosted by the Helena Branch of the Federal Reserve.

Julie can be contacted at jhanson@whitesulphur.k12.mt.us.

Invitation to MSU's Entrepreneurship Day for Montana High School Students

Greetings from Montana State University Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship.

We have a very exciting 14th annual Entrepreneur Day planned for Friday, October 27 at the MSU campus in Bozeman. This event is geared towards students interested in entrepreneurship and business, but it is also a great opportunity to visit a land grant university and learn more about higher education. Our business school with option areas in Accounting, Finance, Management and Marketing, is accredited by AACSB; only 5% of all business schools hold this distinction.

We think this year's keynote speakers will highly resonate with your students. Darktwin Studios, founded by Waylon Roberts, is a group of artists, programmers, and writers passionate about telling personal stories through the interactive medium of video games. The keynote will be shared by Cowboy Crickets Farms founded by James and Kathy Rolin in 2016. Cowboy Crickets Farm is a commercial cricket farm in Bozeman which raises and processes crickets to make cricket powder for many different food products.

The day will have an interactive workshop designed to be motivating and educational. We invite you to inform your students of this great event and encourage them to attend. Entrepreneurship Day is free and does include lunch for students.

The tentative schedule for the day is as follows:

9:00 -9:30 am: Check-In/Registration

9:30-9:40 am: Welcome/Overview

9:40 am-12:40 pm: Interactive Design/Build a Business Workshop. Pitches. Awards

12:45 pm: Lunch

1:15 pm: Keynote, Q&A

2:00 pm: College Tours for schools

We have a special teacher training/sharing session this year led by MSU Business faculty Susan Dana and Terry Profota. They will share their experiences introducing business and entrepreneurship through experiential learning with freshmen students. High school teachers are encouraged to share their victories, challenges and lessons learned through their schools' business curriculum.

Due to space limitations, we recommend that you reserve your school's seats as soon as possible. To accommodate proper set up, handouts and food preparation, please click on this [link](#) to reserve a spot for your school immediately and send the student list on/before October 16. (Format = Student Last Name, Student First Name, School Name) to Lward@montana.edu.

Please contact Linda Ward, lward@montana.edu or 406-994-1995, if you have any questions or concerns. I understand this is a busy time of year for all, but we will provide a fun and highly valuable educational experience for you and your students.

Celebrate National Cyber Security Awareness Month in October with the NSA Day of Cyber

Support National Cybersecurity Awareness Month by running the NSA Day of Cyber online cybersecurity career awareness experience in your classroom during the month of October.

The [NSA Day of Cyber](#) experience will enable your students to sit virtually beside the NSA Cyber Threat Director and test drive a day in the life of six NSA cyber professionals. Students will participate in challenging real-life cyber scenarios, discover the skills and tools used by NSA cyber professionals, explore the vast number of careers in cybersecurity, and generate their "Cyber Resume."

Educators... remember to log into your Instructor Dashboard, where you will retrieve the Student Registration Key and URL to share with students.

More information about running the experience in the classroom can be found here: [Instructor Resource Guide](#).

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Kim Paradise, NSA Day of Cyber Executive Director, at Kim@lifejourney.us or at 410-598-2548.

Learn Robotics Online for Teachers from the CoderZ Team

Do you want to improve your understanding of how robots think, sense and move? Curious about robotics for education and its potential for engaging students with hands-on STEM learning?

[Learn Robotics Online](http://gocoderz.thinkific.com/courses/robotics-for-stem-teachers) (gocoderz.thinkific.com/courses/robotics-for-stem-teachers) is a hands-on online workshop series for STEM Teachers developed by the CoderZ Team at Intelitek. They are offering the workshop series for free to CSTA Members and we wanted to encourage you to sign up for this fantastic opportunity.

The lessons are a combination of short topical videos and hands-on exercises covering topics such as navigation, sensors and programming. The exercises will be done in the CoderZ virtual robotics learning environment which comes with a realistic simulator so you can see your robot execute your code. No need for any hardware! The series is self-paced and online so you can watch the videos and practice the exercises wherever and whenever you want.

Go to gocoderz.thinkific.com/courses/robotics-for-stem-teachers to view the full curriculum and sign up.

Who is this for?

- Educators of all levels who are curious how robots work and how to control them
- Teachers looking to use robotics to introduce their students to programming
- Teachers looking to introduce programming into existing robotics programs

To learn more about CoderZ you can visit <http://gocoderz.com> and sign up for a free trial account. If you have any questions you can be in touch with the CoderZ team by emailing mhorwitz@intelitek.com.

Moneyteach.org—Financial Education Teacher Resource Center with No-Cost Lesson Plans & Course Guides

[MoneyTeach.org](http://www.moneyteach.org) (www.moneyteach.org) is an online resource center offering vetted personal finance resources to teachers new to teaching personal finance. The resources are targeted to K-12th grade educators and includes no-cost lesson plans and course guides from a handful of prominent financial education curricula providers.

The lessons include a section to “share your experience” so educators can jump-start their planning by learning from experienced peers who share their insights and best practices.

Lesson Plans: There is a collection of lesson plans that can be searched for by topic, grade level, duration of instruction and type to select personal finance lessons or activities offered by leading providers. Our curricula providers include:

- The University of Arizona’s Take Charge Today
- The National Endowment for Financial Education’s High School Financial Planning Program
- PwC’s Earn Your Future
- The FDIC’s Money Smart
- The Mu\$eum of American Finance

Course Guides: MoneyTeach has put together course guides with suggested instructional materials for those looking to teach courses of various lengths. The preset guides have been made for courses taught for a week, two

weeks, a quarter or a semester. Educators can pick one of these preset guides or put together their own course guides using any of the lesson plans or activities listed on the website.

Each lesson plan has been fit into a standard from the National Standards in K-12 Personal Finance Education using a different icon for each standard. When creating a course guide, educators can see which standard the lesson fits.

MoneyTeach is dedicated to providing a one-stop-shop for new personal finance educators and would be interested in pursuing sponsorship opportunities to ensure the website and content are up-to-date.

Each lesson plan page offers educators to “Share Your Experience” after teaching a lesson, so we welcome educators to utilize this section to enrich the educator community on MoneyTeach.

In-the-Know: This section of the MoneyTeach website contains articles from prominent educators and professionals active in the field of personal finance and financial education. It has tips, articles and information that can be applied in a financial education classroom. The most recent article gives ideas for how to use your community and teacher voice to help get a full financial literacy course a graduation requirement in your area.

You can find MoneyTeach at www.moneyteach.org.

Registration is Now Open for the 2017 Jump\$tart National Educator Conference

Registration opened last week for the [2017 Jump\\$tart Coalition National Educator Conference \(jumpstart.org/nec17.html\)](http://jumpstart.org/nec17.html) (#JSNEC17) in Washington, DC, November 3-5. The conference will be held at the Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel.

Registration for classroom teachers is \$425 and includes your hotel, meals, and conference materials.

Checkout all the details at jumpstart.org/nec17.

[Scholarships](#) are also available through national sponsors to help attendees cover costs to attend. For a listing of available scholarships for the [2017 Jump\\$tart Coalition National Educator Conference](http://jumpstart.org/2017-national-educator-conference-scholarship-opportunities1.html), visit jumpstart.org/2017-national-educator-conference-scholarship-opportunities1.html.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Elephants are the world’s largest land animals, living sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia.

Two species of these amazing giants are recognized, the African elephant and the Asian elephant. Elephants love water; they like to swim, dive into the water and find great fun in fighting the waves.

Elephant females can have babies until they are about 50 years old and tend to have a new baby every 2 1/2 to 4 years; twins are very rare.

Stories of African elephants getting drunk from the fermented marula fruit are not true as elephants don’t eat the fruit off the ground where it ferments; even if they did, it would take about 1,400 pieces to get one elephant drunk.

The main reason why elephants are massively killed by poachers is their tusks; although scientific researches proved the ivory consists of dentine, a tissue that is similar to bone and has no special effects or qualities.

The elephant trunk is really huge, weighing about 400 pounds, and is so dexterous it can pick up very tiny things including a single grain of rice.

Newborn elephants are born blind, weigh up to 260 pounds, and can stand up shortly after the birth.

The average life span for an elephant in the wild is about 50 to 70 years and the oldest elephant ever was Lin Wang, an Asian elephant, who died in February 2003 at the age of 86.

Elephants produce several types of sounds. Perhaps the most well known is the trumpet, which is made during excitement, distress or aggression and they can hear one another's trumpeting up to 6 miles.

Touching is an important form of communication among elephants—individuals greet each other by stroking or wrapping their trunks and older elephants also use trunk-slaps, kicks and shoves to discipline younger ones.

The closest living relatives to elephants are hyraxes, small, thickset, herbivorous mammals often mistaken for rodents.

Elephants are not scared of mice as some myths suggest; however, they are scared of ants and bees. Consequently, farmers in some African countries protect their fields from elephants by lining the borders with beehives.

Elephants can move forwards and backwards, but cannot trot, jump, or gallop; they are so heavy that they basically cannot get all four legs off the ground at the same time.

In the terrestrial world, elephants are giants but compared to whales, they're more like dwarfs; a blue whale's tongue alone can weigh as much as a single adult elephant.

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