Department of Education

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# **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MEMO NO. 241-24**

**DATE:** April 11, 2024

**TO:** CTE Administrators

**FROM:** Dr. J. Anthony Williams, Director

Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

## SUBJECT: Announcing State Programmatic Accreditation Guidelines for Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Under authority of the Code of Virginia, [§ 22.1-227.01](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter13/section22.1-227.01/#:~:text=As%20used%20in%20this%20article,to%20prepare%20individuals%20for%20further) Career and technical education defined, on November 15, 2023, the Board of Education approved state programmatic accreditation guidelines (Attachment A) that support clearly defined and uniform standards that provide a strong foundation for CTE programs that prepare students for high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand careers. The goal of these standards is to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations with a focus on continuous program improvement and student achievement.

School divisions now have a choice of meeting either state or national programmatic accreditation standards for the following programs: Culinary Arts; Graphic Imaging Technology; Pharmacy Technician; Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration; and Small Engine Technology. Please note that under Code of Virginia, [§ 22.1-227.1.B.](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter13/section22.1-227.1/#:~:text=Career%20and%20technical%20education.,areas%20as%20may%20be%20appropriate.) Career and technical education, national industry certification will continue to be mandatory for instructional personnel and programs of automotive technology which include Automotive Technology, Auto Body Technology, and Diesel Equipment Technology.

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, by email at [CTE@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:CTE@doe.virginia.gov) by telephone at (804) 750-8129.

JAW/jts

Attachment

1. Programmatic Accreditation Guidelines for Career and Technical Education