

Administrative Memo

Date: January 8, 2013
To: School Administrators
From: Sharon Helwig, Ph.D., Assistant Commissioner
Subject: CCR-13-001 – Updated Technical Skills Attainment List for MSIP 5

A primary goal of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is to prepare students for existing jobs that provide a living wage and that offer opportunities for advancement. Following the guidance from national CTE organizations, Missouri is moving toward the approval only of those Technical Skills Attainment (TSA) assessments that result in an industry-recognized certificate or credential. An initial compilation of such a list was posted to the CTE website during the fall, 2012 and was used for the initial DRAFT MSIP 5 Annual Performance Report.

The Department has since received suggestions and feedback in several ways:

1. A committee from area career centers
2. A statewide survey of all area career centers
3. A committee representing both career centers and comprehensive high schools
4. Individual inquiries and suggestions from educators regarding additional assessments which yield a recognized credential.

Based on feedback, two revisions have been made related to this initial list:

1. Additional TSAs for MSIP 5 now appear in response to feedback.
2. Some TSAs NOT resulting in a credential have been added for MSIP 5 on a temporary basis to allow time for transition of programs (see limitation and explanation below).

The revised Technical Skills Attainment assessment list to be used for MSIP 5 may be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/documents/ccr-msip5-tsa-list.pdf>. Although districts may continue to use some TSAs not resulting in a credential until the spring of 2015, all programs should be working to design curriculum and change assessments so that students are prepared for post-secondary success. Only those TSA assessments that result in an industry-recognized certificate or credential will be used for MSIP 5 beginning with the spring, 2015.

The window for collection of TSA assessments is now open. Modifications have been made to the Missouri Student Information System (MOSIS) –June Student Core file to allow districts to report students receiving an industry recognized certificate or credential for 2010, 2011, and 2012. Additional information regarding data collection for TSAs is available through the recorded webinar found at <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/webinar11-19-12dsm.htm>.