Administrative Memo

Date: November 14, 2019
To: Superintendents, High School Principals, Area Career Center Directors, and Postsecondary Deans and Directors
From: Janice Rehak, coordinator

The Vocational-Technical Education Enhancement Grant, established through the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993, continues to serve as a mainstay in the growth and expansion of quality career education in Missouri. With the focus of funds directed towards curriculum, instructional equipment and facility improvement for state-approved career education programs, the Enhancement Grant is committed to providing students with the tools and experience needed to be successful in a high-demand career occupation.

Each year the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is required to post a request for grant awards through the Vocational-Technical Education Enhancement Grant Administrative Planning Guide. This guide outlines the grant award process, establishes allowable and non-allowable expenditures, and lists those instructional areas which have been determined to directly align with the qualifying high-demand occupations.

As in past years, the list of grant-eligible instructional areas for FY21 includes some occupations that were not included for the current cycle, and omits some program areas that have been previously eligible. Eligible grantees are strongly encouraged to carefully review the list, which can be found on pages 16-21 of the planning guide and administrative manual. Schools are encouraged to apply for 50/50 Career Education Equipment/Educational Resources for programs that are not included on the FY21 high-demand list.

If you have questions regarding the Vocational-Technical Education Enhancement Grant, please contact Janice Rehak, coordinator, at janice.rehak@dese.mo.gov or 573-526-4900.