Enhancement Grant

In statute CSR 20-200.190 effective August 16, 2011. The legislation has been in effect since the early 1990’s with the initial administrative rule filed in November 1993. These funds are a state match to the federal funds and have been extraordinarily important to CTE in Missouri. The focus of the Enhancement Grant is on high demand occupations. These are determined by the Director of Workforce Development using MERIC data. DESE works closely with Workforce Development in determining this list of high demand occupations.

Our budget is $16.2 M for this program. In FY17 we funded 172 districts. We have 153 applications for FY18 requesting over $19.1. I am in the process of going through these grants to check and double check for accuracy. We have a fairly complicated system of spreadsheets that are used with this process as schools match their requests for items with a unit cost between $200 and $999 at a 50% rate; the match for equipment over $1000 is 25% for schools and 75% for the state. We are in the process of transitioning from the spreadsheets to our ePeGS payment system, but we don’t believe the transition will be complete until FY19.

Some examples of items that schools purchase with these funds:

- Simulators, wheelchairs, lifts and hospital beds for health science
- Milling machines and robotic arm kits for computer integrated manufacturing
- Brake lathes and alignment racks for auto mechanics
- Various jigs and drills for carpentry
- Gas piping, geo thermal, boiler, and sheet metal training stations for HVAC programs
- Lathes for machine tool programs
- Complete point of sales systems for business and marketing programs
- Greenhouses for agriculture programs
- Drones for agriculture and some PLTW programs
- These funds are also used for some building enhancements and renovations to accommodate programs
- Desktop, laptop, and tablet computers

Schools will be notified in June about their final award.