

Benefits of DESE Approved Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services Program May, 2017

Students in Missouri's Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services (FCSHS) programs can prepare for virtually hundreds of current and emerging careers in fields such as green energy; gentrification; hotel and lodging management; interior design; hospitality and tourism; dietetics; culinary and restaurant management; education; consumer economics; textiles and apparel design or marketing; community service; social services; and family and children's services. These career programs are built on the discipline's content knowledge base applied in different contexts, with different resources at varying degrees or levels.

- **FUNDING** - Approved career education programs are eligible for grant funds for equipment and professional development. Approved programs are also eligible for funding through the federal Carl D. Perkins Act including Enhancement Grants.
- **MISSOURI SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** - Approved Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services programs are a part of the Missouri School Improvement Program Standards. Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services approved programs provide one component for districts in meeting the standard for number of career education offerings. FCS and HS programs developed in pathways can lead to concentrators for Perkins Technical Skills Assessment (TSA) compliance and Industry Recognized Credentials (IRC) for MSIP 5.
- **CURRICULUM and ACCOUNTABILITY** - Career education programs are held accountable for student learning and mastery of course competencies addressing the practical problems faced by ALL students. These competencies have been aligned with the National Standards for Family and Consumer Sciences. Curriculum frameworks have been developed to support the course competencies and suggest instructional programming at the local level. Curriculum focuses on academic integration, career preparation and leadership development.
- **ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** - State-wide professional development opportunities are offered which focus on improved student learning. In-service opportunities are made available throughout the year with the most concentrated opportunity being held in conjunction with the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education summer conference. Districts with approved programs may use Perkins funds and/or grant funds to support the professional development for Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services instructors.
- **CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)** - Approved Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services programs are required to support career and technical student organizations that are co-curricular not extra-curricular. Family Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) is the recognized CTSO for family consumer sciences and human services students. FCCLA is an integral part of the curriculum supporting student development in leadership skills; creative and critical thinking; interpersonal communication; practical knowledge and career preparation. Students prepared under approved program guidelines realize opportunities for higher achievement as a result of teacher preparation and continuing education; a focused curriculum and accountability measures; and leadership and service learning opportunities through Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Students may also participate in Skills USA and Educators Rising for relevant curriculum areas in culinary arts and educations and training.
- **TEACHER CERTIFICATION** - In 2003, the "vocational" identifier was changed to "career". Teachers with career, formerly vocational, education certification have a more rigorous and focused course of study in their teacher preparation courses than teachers prepared under the general certification. Colleges revised programs and since September, 2004, certification in middle school and high school career and non-career programs require the "Career Family and Consumer Sciences/Family Resource Educator, K through Grade 12" certificate.
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** - The staff at DESE is certified in career education to provide specific technical assistance to family and consumer sciences educators.