



Innovations in CTE Grant

March 2025



COLORADO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Innovations in CTE Grant

- Approximately \$2M Total in Awards
- Grant Awards of up to \$250,000 per Project
- Competitive Application Process
- Award Period for FY26 is July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Purpose of Innovations Grant

- Foster innovations in CTE that:
 - Align to Colorado CTE Strategic Plan
 - Align to Regional Needs Assessment
- Address gaps in service or performance for CTE learners
- Better distribute federal Perkins 'Reserve' dollars to deserving applicants

Background

- Perkins V passed in 2018
 - Effective July 1, 2020
- Focus in legislation on innovation
- 'Reserve' funds provide flexibility to ensure more equitable resource distribution across Colorado

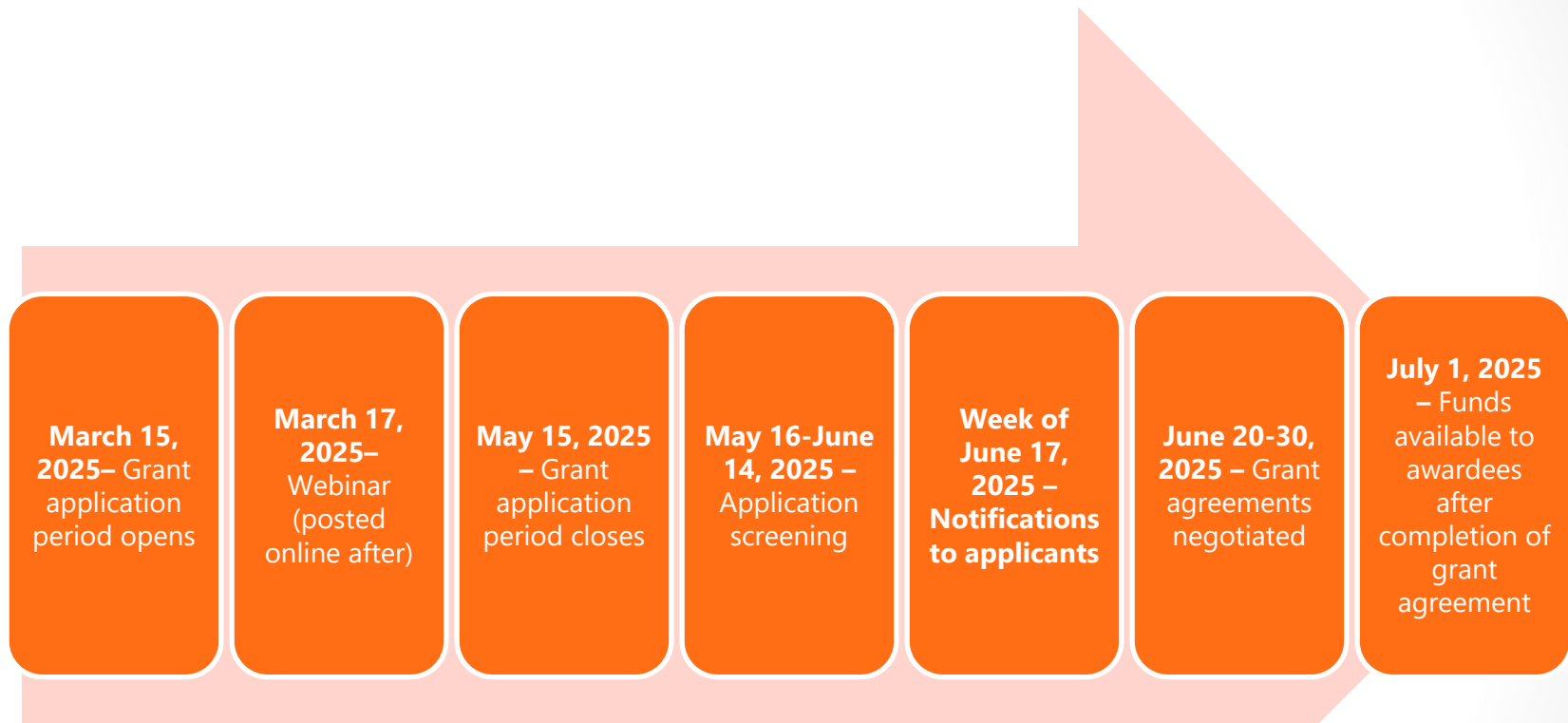
FY25 Grant Awards

Entity Submitting	Project	Amount awarding
Strasburg School District 31 J	Work Based Learning and School Based Enterprises for Strasburg High School	\$ 28,000.00
Bennett School District	Bennett and I-70 corridor EMS program expansion	\$ 112,300.00
Byers School District	Pioneering Health Pathways for Tomorrow Using Innovations in Health Access and Equity	\$ 250,000.00
East Central BOCES	Opening Doors to the Future	\$ 132,000.00
Crowley County School District	New Plasma Table for Crowley County FFA	\$ 33,000.00
St. Vrain School District	Roots to Peaks School Food Partnership	\$ 215,000.00
Technical College of the Rockies	Cyber-Technology: Rural High School Student Empowerment	\$ 55,000.00
CMU Tech	Innovating CTE Healthcare Programs in Rural Western Colorado	\$ 145,000.00
CMU Tech	Innovation in CTE: Airframe & Powerplant Program at CMU Tech	\$ 226,000.00
Northeast BOCES	Elevating Teacher Efficacy and Industry alignment in the Veterinary Science Pathway	\$ 140,000.00
Creed School District	Creede High School Auto Repair	\$ 60,000.00
East Central BOCES	Welding Training for EC BOCES Schools	\$ 245,000.00
Littleton 6 School District	Woodshop 2.0 Tactile Product Designs	\$ 250,000.00
Arapahoe 28 J - Aurora Public Schools	InnovationTech	\$ 250,000.00
Bayfield School District	Wolverines at Work	\$ 137,000.00

CTE Strategic Goals



Timeline



Eligibility Requirements

- FY26 Perkins formula grant participant
- Each educational entity must meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Rural
 - High CTE % (15% minimum)
 - High # CTE Students (1,000+)
 - Application addresses performance deficiency

So...who can apply?

- Secondary/Postsecondary Education partners
- Consortia
- Secondary Districts
- Postsecondary Entities

- Combinations of the above

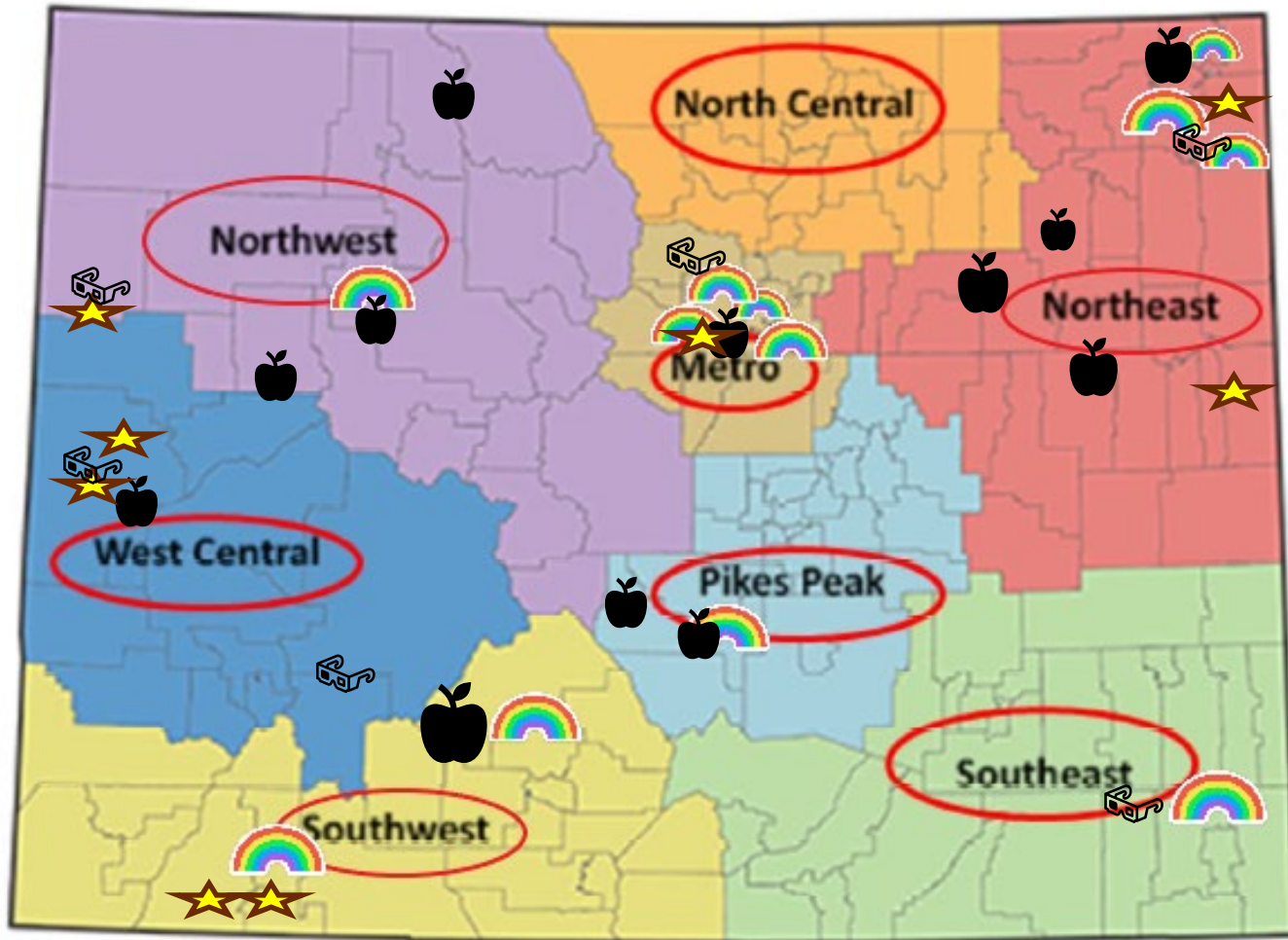
Grant Criteria

- Address minimum of 2 CTE Goals
- Demonstrate partnership
- Preference for rural collaborations, geographic distribution, alignment to needs assessment and CTE vision, access strategies
- \$250,000 maximum proposal
- One project per application
- Reimbursement based grant

Bonus Points!

- For FY26, Colorado CTE is particularly interested in seeing proposals related to the following *in addition to* the criteria noted on the previous slide:
 - Projects that address opportunity gaps
 - Projects that support nontraditional students and programs
 - Feasibility studies for future projects

Visual Representation of Geographic Distribution of Projects



Grant Application Format

- 8 page max
 - Project name
 - Project lead
 - Fiscal agent
 - Project partners
 - Eligibility
 - Project description
- Data
- Success
- Scaling
- Creating buy-in
- Reporting
- Budget
- Timeline
- Assessment

Additional Attachments

- Letters of support from each partner for the project and the partnership
- Detailed budget in Excel

Budget Worksheet

Innovations in CTE Grant Budget			
Expense Type	Description of Planned Expense	Amount Requested from Grant	Matching or In-Kind Amount
Add rows as needed so that detailed budget can be provided (i.e. only one piece of equipment per line). It is not expected that every grant will include expenses in each of the below categories.	Detail for description should be sufficient for grant evaluator(s) to understand the full scope of the expenses planned (i.e. quantity and type of supplies, professional development activities planned, services needed from consultants, etc.)		This is not a requirement, but could help demonstrate additional investment/partnership
Professional Development		\$ -	\$ -
In-state Travel		\$ -	\$ -
Out-of-state Travel		\$ -	\$ -
Supplies		\$ -	\$ -
Consultants		\$ -	\$ -
Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
Training		\$ -	\$ -
Misc. Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
CACTE Expenses (registration, travel)		\$ -	\$ -
Other		\$ -	\$ -
Total Requested from Grant		\$ -	
Total In-Kind Amount			\$ -
Grant Administration - Indirect Cost Rate maximum of 5% (normal federal rules apply including that equipment is not included in the calculation)		\$ -	
Total Grant Amount Requested (may not exceed \$250,000):		\$ -	

Submission Instructions

- Completed applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time on May 15, 2025
- Subject line should include your entity's name and "Innovations in CTE Grant FY2026"
- E-mail cte@cccs.edu
- **Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted**

What Comes Next?

- Evaluation panel
- Negotiation of grant budget and grant agreement
- Sign-off of grant agreement
- Project implementation

Note that this grant process is accounted for, managed, and tracked separately from Perkins formula grant

Common Questions Asked

- Are all projects selected fully funded?
- Can I apply more than one year in a row and be funded?
- What about middle school CTE – can it be included in these grants?
- Are there things that aren't allowable?
- What do you mean by geographic distribution?
- Do I have to apply with my consortium?



Links to Presentation, Call for Proposals, & Budget Worksheet

WWW.COLORADOSTATEPLAN.COM