Braided Funding: Utilizing Perkins V Funds to Support ICAPS Programs

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**Braided Funding Overview** 

Perkins Overview and Uses of Funds

Adult Ed Uses of Funds

What's Allowable Activity

### Braided Funding

"Financial assistance from several sources is coordinated by those receiving the funds, to support a single initiative or strategy, while each individual award maintains its award-specific identity." AGA, p. 5



## Perkins Overview

- Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act: Perkins V
- Perkins is a federal education program that invests in secondary, postsecondary, and adult Career Technical Education (CTE) programs in the United States
- Perkins is the legislation that guides and funds CTE
- Perkins funds support a variety of activities
  - Programs of Study
  - Professional development
  - Technical assistance
  - Career exploration, guidance, and advisement
  - Data collection and analysis, including program and plan evaluation and monitoring

Common Allowable Uses of <u>Federal</u> Perkins Funds in ICAPS Programs CTE instructional supplies, materials, and equipment

#### Professional development for CTE staff and instructors

Industry-recognized certification examinations or assessments

Excursions/extended learning opportunities tied to CTE coursework (Ex: industry site visits)

Support to reduce or eliminate out-of-pocket expenses for special populations (transportation assistance, childcare assistance, textbook loans, tool and learning supply loans, uniform loans)

# **Special Populations**

- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals from economically disadvantaged families, including low-income youth and adults
- Individuals preparing for non-traditional fields
- Single parents, including single pregnant women
- Out-of-workforce individuals
- English learners
- Homeless individuals described in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.)
- Youth who are in, or have aged out of, the foster care system
- Youth with a parent who:
  - (i) is a member of the armed forces (as such term is defined in section 101(a)(4) of title 10m United States Code); and
  - (ii) is on active duty (as such term is defined in section 101(d)(1) of such title).

Common Allowable Uses of <u>State</u> Adult Ed Funds

### Training tuition

Wraparound services, including transportation and childcare

Lending libraries (Ex: wireless hotspots and laptops)

All instructional and support AEL courses

Uniforms and equipment that does not become the property of the student

### What's Allowable?

Use the Jamboard to identify how Adult Ed and Perkins funds can be utilized to support ICAPS programs in the following scenarios.

### Jamboard Link

### Scenario 1

Adult Ed Instructor, Mr. Smith, and CTE Instructor, Mrs. Tungsten, teach together in the Welding ICAPS program at Gerberding Academy. Recently, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Tungsten met to discuss program needs for the upcoming fiscal year. Priority needs they would like to request funding for include attending a national welding conference for professional development, providing a stipend to Mr. Smith to cover additional work required for the support course, purchasing new textbooks and welding gloves for the lending library to ensure that students can access materials for the welding class, providing tuition waivers to students in need, and providing gas cards to students to help with transportation costs associated with attending Mrs. Tungsten's class. How can the team teachers use funds to meet their priority needs?



Jack is an 18-year-old student who recently aged out of the foster care system. He graduated high school a few months ago and started a part-time job at an autobody shop. He does not make enough money to rent an apartment and regularly moves from one friend's apartment to another. He is interested in the Welding program at Gerberding Academy to further his career at the autobody shop. How can Adult Ed and/or Perkins V funds be utilized to help Jack get his Welding Certificate?

# Ability to Benefit Information

Another option for braided funding is Ability to Benefit (ATB) at a community college.

Ability to Benefit is a Financial Aid initiative that provides a way for students without a high school diploma to possibly receive federal financial aid through:

- Earning a high enough score on a US Department of Education approved test
- Earning 6 credit hours
- Utilizing at the State-Defined Process



Illinois' defined process was approved in May 2022.



ICCB has been working on resources and Professional Development since then to help schools understand and possibly utilize the plan.



Where are we now?



Video Modules have been developed and Webinars are planned.

# State-Defined Process Information

# Video Modules

https://www2.iccb.org/adult\_ed/plan-modules/

<u>4 modules – slides and videos are on the ICCB website above</u>

1: ATB Background

- 2: ATB Program Design
- 3: Data Collection & Reporting
- 4: Eligible Career Pathways

Feel free to share as you feel appropriate.

# Upcoming Webinars

Session one: ATB Basics, October 23, 2023, 1:00-2:30pm

• This session will cover the components of the state-defined alternative process for Ability to Benefit (ATB). Bring your implementation stories and questions for discussion.

#### Session two: Documentation for Success in ATB, November 8, 2023, 1:00-2:30 pm

 This session will be focused on ways for Financial Aid and Adult Education staff to co-create documentation to meet the state-defined process and address the workflow among offices for a more seamless process.

#### Session three: ATB and ICAPS, December 4, 2023, 1:00-2:30pm

• This session is for Adult Education faculty and staff who are interested in building on ICAPS programs to utilize the state-defined process for ATB.

If you want to be part of these sessions, reach out to me and I will get you the Zoom link.

# Ability to Benefit (ATB) Office Hour

January 31, 2024, 1:00-2:30pm

Join ICCB staff for ATB Open Office Hour for assistance on specific issues of implementation you are encountering. Bring your questions, challenges, and victories.

Again, I can get any interested parties the Zoom link.

# Braided Funding takes many forms!



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Today, you have heard about Perkins V funding and ATB funding, both at community colleges. Many more options exist. We love hearing how you are braiding funding! So, feel free to reach out with questions or successes.