

Guidance on *Integrated* Career & Technical Education (CTE) Credentials

Legislative Requirement

As stated in the SBCCOE Rules and Regulation (Colorado Career and Technical **Act 8 CCR 1504-2 section 5**) that governs credentialing, **all CTE personnel employed in an** approved CTE program or in a secondary local CTE Director role (except short-term substitute instructors, instructor aides, and paraprofessionals) must hold a valid CTE credential. A credential ensures that the CTE program provides students with well-qualified instructors possessing appropriate occupational and educational experience (Career and Technical Act).

Background

Aligning and embedding academic content within CTE courses is a priority of both the Perkins Act as well as Colorado's State Plan for Career & Technical Education. CCCS requires programs to align CTE occupational standards and competencies with, at a minimum, the Academic Model Content standards in Math, Science, Reading, and Writing & Communication. State validated alignments are posted at www.coloradostateplan.com/content_standards.htm.

Based on the priority to increase academic alignment and integration across CTE curriculum, CCCS has for many years recognized Integrated (Applied) CTE Credentials in Math, Communication (English Language Arts) and Science. These credentials are intended for instructors licensed in one of these areas with an interest in teaching academically enhanced courses (related to their area of licensure) within an approved CTE program.

Clarifying the Requirement

Integrated instructors **must have an allowable Integrated Credential** for the CTE program in which they will be teaching. A crosswalk of credentials (including integrated credentials) by program CIP code is located at http://www.coloradostateplan.com/default_cred.htm.

In order for an instructor with an integrated credential to teach in a CTE program, there **must be an instructor with the appropriate career cluster/pathway specific CTE credential** leading the program. An instructor with an integrated credential may not be the sole instructor within a CTE program. Instructors with an Integrated Credential are meant to enhance the academic rigor and expand the instructional capacity of a program.

Exceptions to this requirement must be approved in writing by the related CCCS Program Director and Assistant Provost for Career & Technical Education.

Where to apply

Integrated credential requirements and application available at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/cte.htm>