



**STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**ASA HUTCHINSON**  
**GOVERNOR**

May 15, 2020

Dr. Angela Kremers, Director  
Arkansas Department of Education  
Division of Career and Technical Education  
Three Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Dr. Angela Kremers:

In support of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act, signed into law by President Donald J. Trump in July 2018, I am pleased to sign this letter as joint signature authority for the new Perkins V federal legislation implemented through this plan. The dedicated federal funding to support the critical role of the state in providing educational opportunities for our CTE students raises equitable outcomes, addresses new demands from business and industry for their 21st century workplaces, and facilitates worldwide economic integration and development.

Perkins V will allow Arkansas to leverage existing, robust CTE programs to help all students successfully transition between secondary, postsecondary, and workforce systems. I commend the Arkansas Department of Education's Division of Career and Technical Education team for engaging with thousands of stakeholders to determine how the department could better support Arkansas CTE students, educators, school and district leaders, and communities in their efforts to improve career and technical education in Arkansas.

State staff collaboration with Arkansas's state departments, business and industry partners, the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, educational cooperatives, school districts, parents, and other stakeholders is evidence of important collaboration to create a plan that demonstrates Arkansas' commitment to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand opportunities for our students and workforce needs.

This plan highlights Arkansas's commitment to high-quality education for all students by enhancing work-based learning opportunities and by focusing on industry-recognized credentials as the state's program quality indicator for CTE programs.

I look forward to supporting the implementation of the Arkansas Perkins V State Plan over the next four years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson