

Guide to Using Perkins Funds for TPSA

This guide is designed to help TPSA chapter advisors understand how Perkins funds can be used to cover costs related to TPSA membership, regional conferences, and state conferences. It provides clarity on how TPSA activities align with the goals of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, making them eligible for Perkins funding.

Overview of Perkins Funding for CTSO Activities

Perkins V funds are intended to support and enhance CTE programs by providing financial assistance for activities that improve student outcomes in technical education and leadership development. As TPSA fosters skills in public safety, a field covered under CTE, Perkins funds can be applied to TPSA-related expenses that meet these objectives. Advisors are encouraged to consult and plan well in advance with their district to be included in the Perkins grant application process for future years.

Perkins funds must **supplement**, not **replace**, existing funding sources. If your school has used state funds in the past to cover certain TPSA-related expenses, Perkins funds cannot replace those but can be used to cover additional or new expenses.

Membership Fees

Perkins funds may be used to cover TPSA chapter membership or affiliation fees, provided these fees benefit all students enrolled in a Law, Public Safety (LPS) course at the school.

"Affiliation fees that an LEA or fiscal agent pays to affiliate eligible career and technical education (CTE) students with a related career and technical student organization (CTSO) provided that the fee benefits all CTE students who are eligible to participate in the organization." - 2024-2025 Program Guidelines.

Student Conference Costs

Perkins funds may be used to cover student travel costs and registration fees for TPSA regional and state conferences. These activities provide leadership development opportunities that align with the broader goals of CTE programs, such as preparing students for careers in public safety sectors.

"Travel for students, including travel and/or registration fees for students to attend CTSO leadership activities. LEAs must be careful not to supplant CTSO related travel costs if State funds have been used to pay for travel in the prior year." - 2024-2025 Program Guidelines.

Advisor Conference Costs

Perkins funds may be used to cover travel expenses for advisors (teachers) attending conferences for professional development or when accompanying students to leadership events above the local district level. This includes transportation, lodging, and related expenses.

"Allowable travel expenses including travel for professional development for both academic and CTE teachers providing instruction to students who are enrolled in CTE programs; travel for staff accompanying students attending CTE student leadership activities above the local district level;" - 2024-2025 Program Guidelines.

This document is intended to aid TPSA advisors in understanding the potential uses of Perkins funds. While we strive for accuracy, we do not guarantee that all information provided is entirely comprehensive or up to date. Advisors should consult with their District's CTE Department and the individual responsible for managing Perkins grant funds to ensure compliance with current regulations and policies. For more detailed guidelines, please refer to the official Perkins V funding guidelines at the following link: [Perkins Funds Guidelines](#).