Career and Technical Education CTE Indicator Auto-Code Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 7/7/21

Auto-Code Background

1. **Why was the self-reported CTE indicator changed to auto-coded by the TEA?**
   The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) requires changes to how career and technical education (CTE) students are reported. At the time of Perkins reauthorization the Texas Education Agency (TEA) evaluated the

4. **Which PEIMS data submission is used for auto-coding?**
   PEIMS Summer Submission (Submission 3). See the [data submission information](#) in the PEIMS online documentation.

5. **When do the new CTE indicator codes take effect?**
   Starting with the 2020-2021 school year PEIMS summer data submission, the TEA will auto-code the first production CTE indicators in the fall of the 2021-2022 school year. Prior to that first production calculation, the TEA is producing three years of "retroactive" calculations to establish a baseline of CTE indicators, based on previous years of data reporting.

CTE Indicators

1. **Why do the new CTE indicators start with a code 4 (not CTE)?**
   To support longitudinal data analysis, the previous codes 0 through 3 were retired at the end of the 2019-2020 school year and new codes started with code 4 in the 2020-2021 school year. This allows researchers and the state CTE program to see long-term impacts of CTE and related programming on improving student outcomes.

2. **Where can I find the CTE indicator definitions?**
   See the 2020-2021 PEIMS table [C142 (CAREER-AND-TECHNICAL-ED-IND-CD)](#) for current year definitions.

3. **If a student never attempts a CTE course, what are they coded?**
   The student in this scenario is a code 4 (Not CTE).

4. **Why does a student not have to pass a high-school CTE course to be a code 5 Participant or code E Explorer?**
   The TEA wanted to provide districts with credit for students attempting and completing a CTE course, even if they did not pass the course.

5. **What is the purpose of the new code E Explorer CTE indicator?**
   When students complete CTE courses across multiple programs of study and do not concentrate their CTE courses in one area, they are "exploring" career and technical education. The TEA wanted to provide districts with a way to identify students who are taking a broader approach to CTE, in order to make local program improvements to concentrate or focus student CTE experiences in the future.

6. **If a student completes the first half of a two-semester course, does the first half course completion record count toward auto-coding the CTE indicator?**
   No. Only when the student completes that last part of a multi-semester course is the course counted toward auto-coding. In addition to course completion codes, the TEA also evaluates PEIMS code C135 (COURSE-SEQUENCE-CODE) and looks for the last part of a multi-part course. In a two-semester course, the C135 code of 2 (Second Half Of A Two Semester Course) is used in the calculation only. In a three-semester course, the C135 NsB(rs)9 6

7. **How does the TEA know if a student passes a course?**
   The auto-calculation system uses PEIMS code C136 (PASS/FAIL-CREDIT-INDICATOR-CODE) to identify if the student passed a course or not. See the 2020-2021 C136 table for more information.

8. **Where can I find the supporting documentation?**
   The auto-calculation system supporting documents and links can be found on the Career and Technical Education page.

9. **Can a student be a code 4 (Not CTE) and a code 5, E, 6 or 7 within the same school year?**
   No. Code 4 and all other codes (5, E, 6 and 7) are mutually exclusive within the same school year. Code 4 means the student never completed a CTE course, regardless of if they passed the course.

10. **Can a student be a code 5 (Participant) and a code 4, E, 6 or 7 within the same school year?**
    No. Code 5 and all other codes (4, E, 6 and 7) are mutually exclusive within the same school year.

11. **Can a student be a code E (Explorer) and a code 4 or 5 within the same school year?**
    No. Code E is mutually exclusive to codes 4 and 5 within the same school year.

12. **Can a student be a code 6 (Concentrator) and a code 7 (Completer) within the same program of study?**
    No. The auto-coding only uses the highest of the two codes within the same program of study within a school year. A student may have been a program of study code 6 (Concentrator) at the end of the 11th grade, and at the end of the 12th grade met all requirements for a code 7 (Completer) in the same program of study. At the end of the 11th grade the student would be a code 6, and at the end of the 12th grade the student would be a code 7.

13. **Can a student be a concentrator or completer in more than one program of study?**
    Yes. Students completing and passing CTE courses identified in multiple programs of study are assigned a CTE indicator for each program of study based on the business rules.

14. **Why are so many of my students assigned multiple CTE indicators of code 6 and code 7?**
    At the time of the new system rollout several of the programs of study lacked approved CTE I5.1 (d)2.Tc 0

Career and Technical Education CTE Indicator Auto-Code
Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

1. **Why are only some of the CTE courses included in auto-calculation?**
   Only CTE courses that count for high school credit are used in auto-code calculations, regardless if they were earned in middle school (grades 6-8) or high school (grades 9-12).

2. **If a student completes but does not pass a CTE course in a program of study, does the course count toward a code 6 or code 7?**
   No. All courses used in calculating codes 6 and 7 must be completed, passed and the student received credit.

3. **If a student completes and did not pass a CTE course that counts for high school credit, and that course is not in a program of study, does the course count for codes 5 (participant) or code E (explorer)?**
   Yes. CTE courses that count for high school credit that are not included in any program of study are also included in code 5 (participant) and code E (Explorer) auto-code calculations regardless of whether a student receives credit for the course or not.   .

course completion code to reflect this instance. If a course completion record is not reported through PEIMS, the course will not be counted in auto-coding.

6. **I have a student who transferred from out of state as an 11th grader. Do her out of state CTE courses count toward auto-coded CTE indicators?**
   No. The TEA auto-coding only uses courses completed in Texas public schools from grades 6 through 12 and reported through PEIMS in summer submission 3, if the service IDs are CTE courses that count for high school credit. This is separate from the local process of assigning course credit to meet graduation requirements.