

Dept. of Ed Accepts Guidance on Nontraditional Indicators in Career and Technical Education

In January, WOW informed you of the new guidance from the Department of Education failing to address the goal of economic "self-sufficiency," as well as weakening the core indicator on non-traditional training – two critical elements in ensuring that all students are prepared for high wage and high growth jobs.

In response to the letter from Congress, and the large volume of public comments received by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) during its 60-day comment period, the Department has changed its treatment of the nontraditional indicators. The final Perkins IV State Plan Guide will require States to report, and be held accountable for, nontraditional participation and completion at the secondary and postsecondary levels (4 indicators total).

Thank you to your efforts and the organizations that submitted their own comments on behalf of self-sufficiency for women and girls.

Although the department did release their decision regarding the nontraditional indicators, we have not heard yet on the status of the self-sufficiency language. We will let you know as we become aware of the actual language in the State Plan Guide.

Attached are two letters, one from Senator Kennedy and Senator Enzi to the Department of Education on the Nontraditional Indicators of Performance and the other from the Department of Education in response.