# Proposed Adoption of the CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION BASIC SKILLS ASSESSMENT





# The Challenge:

Provide an assessment system that will assist K – 12 education to improve the recruitment and retention of CTE teachers pursuing the **Degree Equivalent** certificate endorsed in a technical education program area or health science.





# **Challenge #1:**

The Association of Career Technical Administrators (ACTA) Executive Advisory Council and CTE administrators across the state expressed <u>critical</u> concerns regarding recruitment and retention due to testing requirements of the Praxis® Core Academic Skills for Educators.





# **Challenge #2:**

CTE educators pursuing the Degree Equivalent certificate are individuals who have several years of industry experience and have been removed from a formal educational setting for a number of years. These individuals are seeking ways to give back by obtaining employment in secondary schools to train students in the skills of their respective trade.

A major factor used to determine education success in Alabama classrooms for CTE teachers include meeting qualifying scores for the assessments of basic skills in reading, writing and mathematics.

#### The Solution:

As a result of a validation study conducted by ACT®, prospective Alabama CTE teachers seeking the Degree Equivalent certificate endorsed in technical education program areas or health science have a **proposed** assessment option that accurately reflect tasks critical to daily job performance in the areas of Applied Math, Workplace Documents, and Business Writing.

#### The Solution:

Strengthen the CTE Teacher Certification Program (CTE TCP). The CTE TCP was established in 2013 as a model for assisting teachers who have work experience in an industry related career field to become eligible to receive an Alabama teacher certificate.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, individuals enrolled in the CTE TCP will be provided professional development opportunities that will assist in improving the retention rate of CTE teachers.

#### The Process:

- ► February 5, 2019 Began initial discussions with ACT® to explore assessment products
- March 5, 2019 ALSDE team reviewed and approved a list of core task statements for which CTE teachers perform daily
- March 18, 2019 ALSDE team collaborated with ACT® and delivered a survey of core task statements to 553 CTE teachers with a overall response rate of 61%
- March 22, 2019 ALSDE team selected a representative sample of fully certified CTE teachers to participate in a skill standards setting meeting
- April 12, 2019 ALSDE team assembled 40 fully certified CTE teachers at three regional meeting locations and engaged in a 3.5 hour skill standards setting meeting for each of the proposed assessments:
  - Applied Math
  - Workplace Documents
  - Business Writing

# CTE Basic Skills Assessment The Results:

WorkKeys Skill	Skill Level Range	Recommended Passing Score
Applied Math	3 – 7	4
Workplace Documents	3 – 7	4
Business Writing	1 – 5	3





# Acknowledgements/Contributors

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