Middle School Career-Technical Expansion Frequently Asked Questions

Will the presentation be archived on the ODE website to view later?
Yes, it is currently available here (Updated 1/27/2015)

Is middle grade CTE programming required in 2014-2015 school year?
No, however many schools are already offering career-technical education courses in the middle grades. (Updated 1/27/2015)

What district submits a local board resolution for a waiver?
The school districts responsible for providing middle grade programming. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Are LEAs required to provide career-technical education for grades 7 and 8? Yes, or the local board of education must adopt a resolution that specifies the districts intent not to provide career-technical education to students enrolled in grades seven and eight. (Updated 1/27/2015)

And as a follow-up, if they choose to only provide CTE for either grade 7 OR 8 but not both, are they still required to adopt a resolution/opt-out? If an LEA chooses to provide only one of the two grades, i.e., grade 8, but not for grade 7, then they should adopt a resolution that specifies their intent not to do so and submit that to the department given the compliance component of the statute. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Is the Career-Tech Planning District Lead notified if a district applies for a CTE Waiver?
Yes, there will be a tracking mechanism for schools and the career-tech planning district lead for the status of waiver request(s). (Updated 1/27/2015)

What is the first step in offering a middle grade career-tech course?
Contact your career-tech planning district lead. Communication and planning are the keys to successful implementation. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Will these programs be fully funded according to categorical funding?
Yes, currently middle grade courses are funded according to the categorical supplemental funding rules. Funds are calculated using the school's funding formula. (Updated 1/27/2015)

What is the meaning of CTE26?
CTE26 is simply the designation for the career-technical education program application. It is used for new and renewal of career-tech programs and is required every five years. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can a VM course be offered in 9th grade?
Yes, VM courses can be offered to grade 9 students. (Updated 1/27/2015)

What do VT and VM stand for in course designations?
VM and VT are EMIS designations for courses. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Does access to a Career-Technical Student Organization mean that they must be a member?
Students must have an opportunity and access to join a student organization. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can Career Based Intervention and Family Consumer Science be a middle school program?
Yes, it can be delivered in middle school. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Do Career Based Intervention and Family Consumer Science meet the requirements for providing middle grade CTE programming?
Yes, both of these programs meet the middle school requirements. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Do VM programs and VT programs both qualify for the weighted funding?
Yes, VM and VT courses qualify for the five levels of career-technical education funding. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Would Project Lead the Way courses be VT or VM?
Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a curriculum. It is up to schools to determine what curriculum they will use to deliver the middle grade career-technical education courses. (Updated 1/27/2015)

So, if a district missed the Sept. 30 deadline to opt out for this year, what do we need to do?
The opt-out requirement does not go in effect until Sept. 30, 2015 (FY2016). (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can you explain the benefits of program ownership?
Contact your Career-Tech Planning District Lead or the Office of Career-Technical Education to discuss ownership options. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Do the WebXam scores for 7th graders have the same weight as for a student doing the same thing in grades 12?
If a course is designated as a VT course, the WebXam is required and counted the same in middle grades as in high school. If it is a VM course, no assessment is required. (Updated 1/27/2015)

How will the weighted funding drawn by comprehensive districts impact the CTPD lead?
There is no direct funding impact on the CTPD lead. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can any CTE teacher with a five-year professional license teach a VM course regardless of career path?
Yes. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can you give us some creative ideas for fitting these courses into a traditional 7th/8th grade student school day schedule?
While program scheduling is a local decision, we would encourage schools to use the program of study as a planning tool while developing schedules. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Do districts have to select a specified pathway for middle school students?
Yes, both VM and VT courses are required to be aligned with an approved program within their CTPD. The difference is that VM courses do not have to have a year-to-year programming, while VT courses must have a year-to-year programming. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can an exploration course be developed at the middle school level?
Yes, the Office of Career-Technical Education is developing a career connections course as a VM option that covers multiple career pathways. This course will be available prior to the start of next school year. (Updated 1/27/2015)

We will not be offering the actual approved career-technical courses - at least not next year. If we offer career-exploration types of courses at the middle school level, do we still need to do a waiver?
You will not need a waiver as long as the district completes a CTE26 application for middle school and delivers approved career-technical education courses. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can a school on the guarantee get additional weighted funding for middle school CTE?
It depends on a district-specific situation. Please contact your district treasurer and/or superintendent. (Updated 1/27/2015)

When will licensure requirements for VM Licenses be completed?
Currently all professional career-technical education licensed teachers can teach any VM courses in any pathway. For teachers who have a five-year professional license and plan on attaining a Career-Technical Education validation, a process is being developed now and will be available in May 2015. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Is there a sample of the waiver resolution? No, and there are no plans to provide a sample. The local board of education must develop the resolution and submit next year. (Updated 1/27/2015)

We need to offer programming. Are there any rules about participation?
Ohio Law and Administrative Rules (Updated 1/27/2015)

Please clarify what a "Preliminary Approval" of a CTE26 Application means?
The application process requires multiple approvals and signatures by various stakeholders. The agency provides final approval of a career-technical education program. Also, the district is required to follow all assurances and enter EMIS data correctly. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can a course be coded both VM and VT - depending on whether the student is in the "program" or just taking one course within a program?
No, the hour requirements for VM courses are 30-60 hours, while VT courses require 120-280 hours. Also, the rules based around VM and VT is different. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Will the CTPD lead receive any funding for overseeing middle school programs?
No. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Is there a one-year waiver allowed for the CTE teacher to get a validation completed or does it have to be completed when school begins for 2015 (August)?
The validation must be completed by the beginning of next school year. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Why would a VM course get the same funding as a VT course when hour requirements are so different?
The funding formula is the same; however the FTE is a factor in the amount funds received. (Updated 1/27/2015)

As the home district, are we required to offer this to all students and have all students take the course(s) or is this elective only for students choose if they wish to partake?
All students must be provided access to career-technical education or the district must pass a local board resolution to opt-out. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Does the college need to sign off on a CTE26 for a middle school program?
No, but middle grade programs must be aligned to a CTE program within the CTPD. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Does the grade 8 VM pathway course need to be different from the grade 7 course? For example, can I offer "Pre-Engineering Technologies, part 1" in grade 7, and "Pre-Engineering Technologies, part 2" in grade 8?
No. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Does Project Lead the Way endorsement meet VM licensure requirement?
Yes, but only in those career fields using Project Lead the Way. (Updated 1/27/2015)

If a small rural school currently offers a family consumer science course to all 7th graders and an agriculture science course to all 8th graders, does that meet the new requirements?
Yes. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can VM courses be yearlong courses?
This is a local decision; however VM courses can only be 30-60 hours next year. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Can a district offer to the middle school level a VM course in one career field and align it to a POS at the career center in a different career field?
No, it must be aligned in the same career field. (Updated 1/27/2015)

Is it true that if a student takes an industry credential test that they will not have to take Webxam?
This is true for senior only credential programs. All VT courses require the WebXam. (Updated 1/27/2015)

VT courses at the middle school level - are they issued HS credit then - since a WebXam goes along with it?
All high school credit decisions are a local decision. (Updated 1/27/2015)