Your Question:
You asked if any of the states named in this post are allowing schools to use Perkins funds for arts pathways (other than digital media or film).

Our Response:
While some states include arts pathways within CTE programs, not all of these states use programs including arts courses beyond media arts and production. The Arts and CTE blog lists five states (Alabama, Florida, Iowa, Michigan and Texas), though more states may incorporate the arts into CTE. Of the five included, three specifically incorporate visual and performing arts in CTE programs. State funding pathways are not easily identifiable, and the dollar amount states allocate or appropriate—as well as the source of those funds—is difficult to pin down.

Alabama organizes CTE according to the 16 national career clusters including arts, audio/video technology and communications. Students choose one of three pathways—audio-video technology and broadcasting, printing technology, or visual arts. The visual arts pathway includes courses such as advertising design, digital design, graphic illustration, animation, storyboard and photography. A list of courses can be found on page 15 of the Alabama Course of Study-Career and Technical Education. Enrollment data for the arts course cluster and estimated distribution of CTE funds between local, state leadership and administration and reserve can be viewed here.

Florida regulation requires the Department of Education to develop program standards and CTE programs in arts, audio/video technology, and communication. These courses encompass film, journalism and broadcasting, performing arts, printing technology, telecommunications and visual arts. Courses and curriculum frameworks can be viewed here. Enrollment and CTE funding data can be viewed here.

Texas includes six career pathways within the arts, A/V technology and communications career cluster including A/V technology and film, printing technology, visual arts, performing arts, journalism and broadcasting and telecommunications. Resources for teachers are available online, as well as career information for students interested in pursuing arts as a CTE pathway. Enrollment and CTE funding data can be viewed here.

Additional data & links

Career and Technical Education Policy Snapshot (Education Commission of the States, 2019). Includes information related to funding pathways.


State by State CTE Information (AdvanceCTE, February 2019).