

Professional Learning Calendar 2024-2025

The calendar below provides an overview of professional learning events for the 2024-2025 school year. Additional learning opportunities may be added throughout the year. The majority of events included here are free of charge to attend/participate in for educators in Illinois. Educators who fully participate in an event are eligible to earn Professional Development Hours (and Administrator Academy credit where relevant). More information and/or registration for these experiences can be found below.

All times listed below are Central.

To register, click the "Register" link next to each date. Event details will be emailed to all registrants 48 hours prior to each event.

Date	Time	Title
July 18	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Getting Ready for Students: Planning and Preparation for New CTE Teachers
July 23	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Getting Ready for Students: Lesson and Unit Planning in Your CTE Course
September 9	Asynchronous	Work-Based Learning Online Course
September 10	9:00 AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
September 10	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Using Various Forms of Assessment in CTE - Part 1
September 19	11:00 AM	How to Use the Unit Plan Organizer and Lesson Plan Templates
September 30	Asynchronous	High-Level CTE for All Online Course (Introductory) Course Cohort 4 Begins
September 30	Asynchronous	High-Level CTE for All Online Course (Advanced) Course Cohort 2 Begins
October 1	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Using Various Forms of Assessment in CTE - Part 2
October 8	9:00 AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
October 9	11:00 AM	Evaluating CTE Lessons and Materials for Instructional Improvement
October 16	3:30 PM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices - Accessibility - Eliminating Barriers for CTE Students
November 12	11:00 AM	<u>New Teacher - Using the Essential and Technical Skills in Your Lesson Planning (Lesson</u> <u>Sharing Workshop)</u>
December 3	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Planning Ideas for Your Spring 2025 CTE Course
December 11	3:30 PM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices Series - Bias, Micromessaging and Stereotypes

January 14	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Instructional Strategies and Techniques in CTE
January 21	Asynchronous	Work-Based Learning Online Course
January 21	Asynchronous	High-Level CTE for All Online Course (Introductory) Course Cohort 5 Begins
February 4	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Striving for Excellence: Reflecting on Your Own Teaching
February 11	9:00 AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
February 11	12:00 PM	Evaluating CTE Lessons and Materials for Instructional Improvement
February 19	3:30 PM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices - Career Exploration & Nontraditional Pathways
March 4	11:00 AM	New Teacher - CTE Teacher Roundtable: Sharing Team-Based Challenges
March 11	9:00 AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
April 1	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Inclusive and Welcoming Environments: Revisiting Classroom Culture in CTE
April 16	11:00 AM	ISBE CTE and Illinois MTSS Network - Differentiation for All Students
May 6	11:00 AM	New Teacher - Ways to Assess Your Lessons and Planning for Next Year
May 26	Asynchronous	Summer 2025 - Work-Based Learning Online Course
June 4	11:00 AM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices Series - Culturally Responsive Teaching in CTE
June 18	11:00 AM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices Series - Eliminating Barriers to Dual Credit

July 2024

July 18 11AM–12PM	New Teacher - Getting Ready for Students: Planning and Preparation for New CTE Teachers
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
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Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session prepares new educators for a conversation around planning and preparation in your classroom on topics including classroom set-up, classroom management philosophy and practice, and classroom safety issues.

July 23 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - Getting Ready for Students: Lesson and Unit Planning in Your CTE Course
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session includes the sharing of new resources around lesson planning templates and unit of study resources. These resources will be shared so educators can use them in future planning activities in their CTE instructional and curriculum development.

September 2024

September 9	Work-Based Learning Online Course
Location: Online	Enrollment in the Course is Full at this time - Please consider enrolling into our Spring Cohort for 2025 located on this calendar under the January 21, 2025 date. Individuals who would like to be waitlisted for entrance to the Fall course can email Bill Rose at wrose1@niu.edu
Perkins V Goals	6 - Work-Based Learning
Professional Development Hour(s): 75	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators to complete the required learning experience to lead Work-Based Learning programs in their schools and districts as defined on the state's work-based learning continuum and the Perkins V State Plan. Educators who successfully complete this learning experience will earn PDH credit and acquire the ISBE designation on their PEL to develop, implement, and assess Work-Based Learning opportunities. More information is coming soon!

September 10 9AM-10AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): No Professional Development Hours Offered

Session Description: The purpose of the Illinois Career Pathways User Group (CPUG) is to create a community of educators who can learn and lead together by sharing successes with and asking questions of one another. To join, please complete the <u>Illinois Career Pathways User Group registration</u> form. Meetings (September, October, February, & March) are scheduled throughout the academic year that will allow participants to engage in the various aspects of developing and implementing College and Career Pathway Endorsements.

September 10 11 AM - 12 PM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Using Various Forms of Assessment in CTE - Part 1

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. While these sessions focus on new teachers, experienced teachers are encouraged to participate based on their professional development needs. This session focuses on various forms of assessment in CTE. It will include various strategies and resources on how to assess students in multiple ways. Part one will focus on explaining the various types of strategies and will focus on developing formative self-assessment in your CTE courses.

September 19 11AM - 12PM	How to Use the Unit Plan Organizer and Daily Lesson Plan Templates
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), designed a Unit Plan Organizer and Daily Lesson Plan Template for all CTE Teachers. This interactive session provides an overview of the Unit Plan Organizer editable document, strategies on how to implement it in the classroom, and showcases the many resources linked to the template. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in discussions centered around the process of unit planning and implementation ideas with colleagues.

September 30	High-Level CTE for All Online Course (Introductory) Course Cohort 4 Begins
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE (Registration for this course is limited)
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 15

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators. This course is designed to introduce educators to student-centered Diversity Equity and Inclusion topics. It offers educators the opportunity to learn about accessibility for all students, nontraditional career pathways, micromessaging, bias and stereotypes, as well as the importance of inclusion for all students. Upon successfully completing the course, educators will earn PDH credit. More information is coming soon!

September 30	High-Level CTE for All Online Course
	(Advanced) Course Cohort 2 Begins

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE (Registration for this course is limited)
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 20

Session Description:The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators.This second, more advanced, series supports the Perkins V State Plan and the needs of Special Populations. These experiences provide teachers with advanced opportunities to prioritize DEI to improve outcomes and enhance the skills gained in their career and technical education (CTE) program of study at a deeper level. Upon successfully completing the course, educators will earn PDH credit.

October 2024

October 1 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Using Various Forms of Assessment in CTE - Part 2
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. While these sessions focus on new teachers, experienced teachers are encouraged to participate based on their professional development needs. This session focuses on various forms of assessment in CTE. It will include various strategies and resources on how to assess students in multiple ways. Part two will review the use of formative self assessments, but will include discussion and resources on authentic assessments that can be both formative and summative in nature. Educators <u>do not</u> have to attend session 1 to attend this session.

October 8 9AM-10AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): No Professional Development Hours Offered

Session Description: The purpose of the Illinois Career Pathways User Group (CPUG) is to create a community of educators who can learn and lead together by sharing successes with and asking questions of one another. To join, please complete the <u>Illinois Career Pathways User Group registration</u> form. Meetings (September, October, February, & March) are scheduled throughout the academic year that will allow participants to engage in the various aspects of developing and implementing College and Career Pathway Endorsements.

October 9	Evaluating CTE Lessons and Materials for
11AM-12PM	Instructional Improvement
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE

7 - Instructor Professional Development

3 - Academic Instruction

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Perkins V Goals

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), evaluated over 100 state CTE lessons in 2023. As part of this work, their team identified thirteen categories that can improve lessons and units in CTE. This workshop will briefly share the report's findings and provide resources for teachers on how they can improve their instructional materials and resources through reflection and planning templates. Teachers will be provided resources to consider making edits and changes following domain four (Engaging in Reflective Process) of Danielson's Framework for Teaching.

October 16 3:30-5PM

CTE & Equity Promising Practices - Accessibility - Eliminating Barriers for CTE Students

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1.5

Session Description: Accessibility benefits all students in Career Technical Education (CTE). Eliminating barriers for students will increase CTE enrollment and promote a sense of belonging and inclusion. There are barriers that are seen and unseen that affect student success. Educators will learn about the importance of accessibility and how they can adopt new tools and strategies to better serve underserved students.

November 2024

November 12 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - Using the Essential and Technical Skills in Your Lesson Planning (Lesson Sharing Workshop)
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session is a collaborative one that asks educators to share a lesson that they have had success in their Career Pathway. Teachers will share their lessons prior to professional development and time will be provided to share their successes and challenges faced in teaching the lesson. Through sharing of the lessons, we hope to provide a teacher-friendly environment to build collaboration, increase the sharing of lessons and strategies via grassroots and improve lesson writing through teacher reflection strategies. Teachers will be placed in breakout rooms and are asked to have a "ready lesson" to share with the group.

December 2024

December 3	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Planning Ideas for Your Spring 2025 CTE Course
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction 7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session will highlight planning for units of study through discussion about two resources. The ISBE Unit Plan Organizer Template and the 18-Week Semester Plan resources will be discussed, along with other strategies for aligning your units with Technical and Essential Skills.

December 11CTE & Equity Promising Practices Series - Bias,3:30-5PMMicromessaging and Stereotypes

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	7 - Instructor Professional Development 9 - Continuous Improvement

Professional Development Hour(s): 1.5

Session Description: Not only what we say, but how we say it matters. There is even messaging in our body language and our nonverbal communication. We all have biases; however, it is what we do with them that can directly affect student performance and inclusion in the classroom. Educators will learn strategies to be intentional with language, nonverbal communication, and encouragement while keeping rigor high in the classroom.

January 2025

January 14 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - Helping Students Learn: Instructional Strategies and Techniques in CTE
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session will highlight authentic learning resources and assessment, paired with strategies on how to create an inquisitive classroom environment. Inquisitive and critical thinking skills allow for educators to focus their classroom learning through questioning strategies, think-pair-share, delphi method teaching, and other instructional techniques.

January 21	Work-Based Learning Online Course
Location: Online	<u>REGISTER</u> (Read form and complete Enrollment)
Perkins V Goals	6 - Work-Based Learning
Professional Development Hour(s): 75	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators to complete the required learning experience to lead Work-Based Learning programs in their schools and districts as defined on the state's work-based learning continuum and the Perkins V State Plan. Educators who successfully complete this learning experience will earn PDH credit and acquire the ISBE designation on their PEL to develop, implement, and assess Work-Based Learning opportunities. More information is coming soon!

January 21	High-Level CTE for All Online Course (Introductory) Course Cohort 5 Begins
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE (Registration for this course is limited)
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 15

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators. This course is designed to introduce educators to student-centered Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion topics. It offers educators the opportunity to learn about accessibility for all students, nontraditional career pathways, micromessaging, bias and stereotypes, as well as the importance of inclusion for all students. Upon successfully completing the course, educators will earn PDH credit. More information is coming soon!

January 23Problem-Based Learning in CTE: Planning3:30-5PMUsing Templates and Skills Assessments

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: This session in the Problem-Based Learning in CTE series will share strategies on how to align the Technical and Essential Skills in your units along with providing templates that will assist you and your students in the process. Templates will include how to plan for Work-Based Learning activities in your coursework, Problem-Based Learning activities, and templates that will help your students maintain their success through long-term projects and complicated assignments.

February 2025

February 4	New Teacher - Striving for Excellence: Reflecting on Your Own Teaching
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE

Educators across the State of Illinois. This session addresses Danielson's Framework for Teaching by focusing on Domain Four. Teachers will review a chosen lesson or unit and be provided with teacher reflection materials and resources. Other teacher resources around family communication and reflection on those practices will be discussed.

February 11 9AM-10AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): No Professional Development Hours Offered

Session Description: The purpose of the Illinois Career Pathways User Group (CPUG) is to create a community of educators who can learn and lead together by sharing successes with and asking questions of one another. To join, please complete the <u>Illinois Career Pathways User Group registration</u> form. Quarterly meetings (September, October, February, & March) are scheduled throughout the academic year that will allow participants to engage in the various aspects of developing and implementing College and Career Pathway Endorsements.

February 11Evaluating CTE Lessons and Materials for
Instructional Improvement

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), evaluated over 100 state CTE lessons in 2023. As part of this work, their team identified thirteen categories that can improve lessons and units in CTE. This workshop will briefly share the report's findings and provide resources for teachers on how they can improve their instructional materials and resources through reflection and planning templates. Teachers will be provided resources to consider making edits and changes following domain four (Engaging in Reflective Process) of Danielson's Framework for Teaching.

February 19 3:30-5PM

CTE & Equity Promising Practices - Career Exploration & Nontraditional Pathways

Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	4 - Recruitment and Access

Professional Development Hour(s): 1.5

Session Description: Nontraditional careers are those that have less than 25% of any gender in the career pathway. Breaking stereotypes and biases within CTE career pathways encourages more students to follow their dreams regardless of their gender, race, religion, or socioeconomic status. Educators will learn strategies to break the myths of gender roles as they relate to careers and gender bias, as well as receive access to resources to promote career exploration as young as elementary school.

March 2025

March 4 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - CTE Teacher Roundtable: Sharing Team-Based Challenges
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session will share information about Team-Based Challenges and how Career Pathways are using them in CTE courses to encourage student growth and community participation in our Career and Technical Education programs. Teachers are encouraged to share ideas about their team-based challenges and find ways to improve them by focusing on authentic problems. Teachers who do not have a fully developed team-based challenge, but still want to attend are encouraged to participate and learn more about the statewide initiative.

March 11 9AM-10AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Session Description: The purpose of the Illinois Career Pathways User Group (CPUG) is to create a community of educators who can learn and lead together by sharing successes with and asking questions of one another. To join, please complete the <u>Illinois Career Pathways User Group registration</u> form. Meetings (September, December, March, May) are scheduled throughout the academic year that will allow participants to engage in the various aspects of developing and implementing College and Career Pathway Endorsements.

April 2025

April 1 11AM-12PM	New Teacher - Inclusive and Welcoming Environments: Revisiting Classroom Culture in CTE
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction 7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session will highlight classroom culture through various resources on creating culturally responsive classrooms through classroom set-up, established routines and regulations, and problem solving strategies to address individual student needs.

April 16 11AM-12PM	ISBE CTE and Illinois MTSS Network - Differentiation for All Students
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: One size does not fit all. Learn how to meet the instructional needs of ALL students. In this workshop educators will learn how to lesson plan and incorporate activities to reach students with a wide range of abilities and neurodiversity. Stressing the importance of working with cross content teaching staff and special education departments to provide accommodations and modifications for students with disabilities. There will also be extension strategies for gifted students in CTE.

May 2025

May 6	New Teacher - Ways to Assess Your Lessons
11AM-12PM	and Planning for Next Year
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE

3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), worked to create professional development that addresses the needs of New CTE Educators across the State of Illinois. This session will highlight two main ideas for ending the 2024-2025 school year. The first idea revolves around looking at lessons or units that didn't seem successful or where students struggled. The workshop will provide strategies to investigate what went wrong and how teachers can evaluate, replan, and reteach these units in the future. The second part discussion revolves around planning and strategizing for next year. It provides materials for teachers to review their plans and make adjustments for the 2025-2026 school year. This workshop will also highlight new information to teachers on how they can stay involved in Summer 2025 workshops, attend the Career Connections Conference, and other professional development for CTE.

May 9 9AM-10AM	ISBE Career Pathways User Group
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Session Description: The purpose of the Illinois Career Pathways User Group (CPUG) is to create a community of educators who can learn and lead together by sharing successes with and asking questions of one another. To join, please complete the <u>Illinois Career Pathways User Group registration</u> form. Meetings ((September, December, March, May) are scheduled throughout the academic year that will allow participants to engage in the various aspects of developing and implementing College and Career Pathway Endorsements.

May 26	Work-Based Learning Online Course
Location: Online	REGISTRATION is done through reach-out to local EFEs. Please contact your EFE for more information on availability of the course.
Perkins V Goals	6 - Work-Based Learning

Session Description: The NIU Illinois CTE Project Team, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), has designed an online asynchronous course for CTE educators to complete the required learning experience to lead Work-Based Learning programs in their schools and districts as defined on the state's work-based learning continuum and the Perkins V State Plan. Educators who successfully complete this learning experience will earn PDH credit and acquire the ISBE designation on their PEL to develop, implement, and assess Work-Based Learning opportunities. More information is coming soon!

June 2025

June 4 11AM-12PM	CTE & Equity Promising Practices - Culturally Responsive Teaching in CTE
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development
Professional Development Hour(s):	

Session Description: Creating an inclusive classroom allows CTE teachers to recognize the importance of including students from all cultural backgrounds in all aspects of their learning. CTE teachers will learn strategies to incorporate culturally responsive teaching into their classrooms by making learning culturally relevant, building relationships, and planning lessons.

June 18 11AM-12PM	CTE & Equity Promising Series - Eliminating Barriers to Dual Credit
Location: Online	REGISTER HERE
Perkins V Goals	3 - Academic Instruction7 - Instructor Professional Development

Professional Development Hour(s): 1

Session Description: Dual Credit opportunities are increasingly becoming essential for students across Illinois. In this session, CTE teachers will learn from leading practitioners on efforts to increase access to CTE dual credit coursework. Additionally, participants will gain insight on various barriers that impede students to access quality dual credit opportunities. Additionally, participants will receive guidance on how to overcome local challenges that relate to instructor credentialing, student eligibility requirements, and programs of study.