Perkins V legislation (the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act) includes a new requirement for local eligible recipients to conduct a comprehensive local needs assessment (CLNA) of every CTE program and needs to be updated every two years. This requirement translates the language of the law into tangible steps for analyzing data from local and regional labor, industry and educational entities. It provides the foundation of Perkins V implementation at the local level and drives the development of the local application and future spending decisions.

The CLNA has provided an insightful opportunity as we encouraged local and regional stakeholders to provide their thoughts and visions for the future of Lewis-Clark State College’s Career & Technical Education Programs. This rigorous in-depth process has allowed LCSC to examine our CTE programs and has helped us to identify areas that can lead to increased opportunities for student success, program quality and equity.

The CLNA also encompassed consultation regarding LCSC’s overall CTE offerings and measures:

* Performance on federal accountability indicators
* Alignment to labor market needs
* Scope, size and quality of programs offered
* Progress toward implementing programs and programs of study
* Recruitment, retention and training of faculty and staff
* Progress toward improving access and equity