



MINNESOTA

 **State Highlight**

Funding support for career exploration. Minnesota allocated Perkins V funds to support staff time and resources to develop career exploration materials. A federal grant supported Ready Set Go MN, a platform used to support career and college exploration. The state also supports the Minnesota Career Information System (MCIS), an online subscription system offering career, educational, and labor market information.



VISION



State Definition. Minnesota's Perkins V Plan defines career exploration as “an activity designed to provide some in-depth exposure to career options for students.”

Minnesota has yet to codify its definition of career exploration and state career exploration as an official priority.



POLICY



Youth Services Program. School boards have the option to provide a youth service program that provides young people with opportunities to make career connections and seek networks. The board may award one credit toward graduation for a student who completes the youth service requirements.

Construction and Skilled Trades Counseling. As issued in Minnesota code, career counseling must incorporate construction and skilled trades for middle and high school students and identify high-growth, in-demand skilled trades.

Minnesota has yet to require career exploration requirements in middle school and formally include middle school career exploration in state and federal accountability systems.



INFRASTRUCTURE



Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs). Minnesota has middle school chapters in HOSA, FFA, and FCCLA. CTSO chapters operate in-school and are led by teacher advisors in middle and high schools. Perkins V funding can be used for the purchase of branded organizational materials as long as those materials remain the property of the program.

Learn2Build. Learn2Build is an online platform that provides construction career exposure for middle school youth by offering activity kits, hands-on events such as construction camps and afterschool programming, and resources for teachers to use in their own classrooms.

Minnesota has yet to provide dynamic training opportunities to staff related to middle school career exploration and resources that emphasize best practice.



Full Report



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Category	Status	Description
Leadership Does the state leadership include career exploration as a valued or prioritized component of students' middle school experience?	 Building Emerging Advanced	The state's leadership does not have any clear priorities for middle school career exploration.
Career Exploration Definition Does the state formally define career exploration for middle school students?	 Building Emerging Advanced	MN <u>defines</u> career exploration within its Perkins V Plan as an activity designed to provide some in-depth exposure to career options for students.
Advocacy Are there organizations within the state that are advocating for middle school career exploration?	 Building Emerging Advanced	MN does not have any organizations advocating for middle school career exploration that rose to recognition within the landscape scan.



MINNESOTA • POLICY

Category	Status	Description
Standards Does the state have policies that establish standard practices for career exploration in middle schools?	 Building Emerging Advanced	School boards have the <u>option</u> to provide a youth services program that allows students to make career connections within their communities. Also <u>MN statute</u> requires career counseling to incorporate construction and skilled trades for middle and high school students and identify high-growth, in-demand skilled trades.
Accountability Does the state integrate career exploration into their accountability systems?	 Building Emerging Advanced	The state does not integrate career exploration into its ESSA state plan. While career-connected concepts are introduced in the state's Perkins V Plan, middle school career exploration is not explicitly addressed.
Student Requirements Does the state have policies that require middle school students to complete career exploration activities?	 Building Emerging Advanced	Although MN does <u>require</u> students to have a personal learning plan no later than grade 9, middle school students are not held to any requirements.
Incentives Does the state have policies that incentivize career exploration in middle schools?	 Building Emerging Advanced	Minnesota does not have any incentives directly related to middle school career exploration.



MINNESOTA • INFRASTRUCTURE

Category	Status	Description
Funding Does the state use state or federal funding sources to support career exploration for middle school students?		MN allocates Perkins V funds for staff time and resources to support career exploration materials. A federal grant allowed MN to build Ready Set Go MN , an access and equity website which utilizes the power of technology to inform, support and engage underrepresented students and their families in participating and succeeding in rigorous courses and postsecondary opportunities with an emphasis on career and college exploration. The state supports the Minnesota Career Information System (MCIS), a fee-based, online subscription system that offers career, educational, and labor market information in one easy-to-use tool.
Professional Development Does the state support the training of school counselors (and other school staff) in career exploration?		MN does not support training or professional development opportunities for school counselors and other school staff in career exploration.
Material Supports Does the state provide material supports on the implementation of middle school career exploration?		The Career and College Readiness Resource Guide defines the four college and career readiness (CCR) domains and corresponding competencies, outlines roles and responsibilities for various stakeholders in the school community, and provides sample activities to document student progress toward CCR.
Data Collection Does the state collect data on middle school career exploration opportunities in the state?		There are no formal state-level data collection practices related to middle school career exploration.
CTSOs Does the state support participation in career and technical student organizations?		MN has middle school chapters in HOSA, FFA, and FCCLA. Perkins V funding can be used for the purchase of branded organizational materials as long as those materials remain the property of the program.
Organizations Are there organizations within the state that support career exploration in middle schools?		Within Construction Careers Foundations, Learn2Build provides construction career exposure for middle school youth by offering activity kits, hands-on events, such as construction camps and afterschool programming, and resources for teachers to use in their own classrooms.