



Career Scholarship Accounts

Indiana Department of Education | Indiana Commission for Higher Education | Indiana Treasurer of State

CSA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for School Leaders: Additional Questions Related to CTE

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Number	Question	Answer
1	What is the purpose of Career Scholarship Accounts? How do they differ from CTE programming?	<p>Career Scholarship Accounts are intended to expand the number of career preparation opportunities for students. CSA's provide flexible funding students can use to pay for work-based learning, applied learning experiences and earning credentials of value. These opportunities are made available through providers such as employers or intermediary organizations that have been approved by IDOE and CHE.</p> <p>The CSA program is meant to work with or in addition to Career and Technical Education (CTE); not to compete with or to replace CTE funding. CSA providers help create new experiences and programs not possible or more difficult through current CTE programs and funding. CSA funding serves a smaller student population than CTE. Career Centers and school corporations are encouraged to continue relying on state CTE tuition support and federal Perkins funding to support their career programming options.</p>
2	What are ideal opportunities for a CSA to be utilized?	<p>Ideal examples of when to use CSAs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Youth Apprenticeship programs● Career preparation programs where the employer provides the training along with an intensive WBL experience.● Situations where traditional CTE programs are not available or where a CSA can help break down barriers for a student to participate in an experience aligned with their career interests.
3	Can a school (secondary or postsecondary) or a career center be a primary provider for CSAs?	<p>Yes, schools can apply to be a primary provider for the CSA program if they are working in close partnership with employers and the employers are active participants in designing the CSA program. If students participating in the program previously utilized CTE tuition support, the school will be asked to describe how their program will be enhanced by using the CSA program in lieu of CTE tuition support.</p>



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<p>4</p>	<p>How does a school support a student who expresses interest in CSA?</p>	<p>The Treasurer’s CSA Student Resources page is the primary hub for all the information that students will need to participate in CSAs. If possible, school staff (such as teachers or counselors) should help students and families navigate the application process on that page.</p> <p>Counselors can help students navigate the Student Resources page above to find opportunities aligned to their college and career interests. (Note that there are only funds for 1,900 students to participate in CSAs in 2024, so, depending on demand, not all interested students may be able to participate.)</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Can a school offer instruction related to CSAs without being the primary CSA provider?</p>	<p>Yes. CSA funds support instruction related to a CSA program, and schools and CTE centers may provide that instruction. For example, an employer or intermediary can be approved as the “primary provider,” and then include a school as the “subprovider” for related instruction, much like a subcontractor would. If the primary provider selects the “all-inclusive” option through the Treasurer’s Office, CSA funds would pass through the primary provider to the school for the CSA-related expenses. If the provider does not select the “all-inclusive” option, then the school would be responsible for submitting the invoice.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Can students receive both CTE and CSA funds?</p>	<p>No. If a student is approved for a CSA, the student is no longer eligible for CTE funding. This is applied on an annual basis: for accounting purposes, students are considered either a CTE or CSA student in a given academic year, and cannot be counted for both in that year. However, students may be counted toward different funding programs in different years, counting for CTE funding one year and CSA funding another. However, CTE students remain CTE students for the purposes of CTE data reporting in the InTERS system, regardless of whether they receive CSA or CTE funding.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Can schools receive both CTE and CSA funds for the same student, if the CTE courses are unassociated with the student’s CSA program of study?</p>	<p>No. If a student uses CSA funds in any given academic year, they are not eligible for CTE funds that year. This remains true whether or not the CTE courses are in the same program of study (that is, the same sequence of courses in the same career field) as the CSA courses the student takes.</p>



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8	Should CSA students still be enrolled in CTE and WBL courses through InTERS? <i>(InTERS is the data system Indiana utilizes for CTE data)</i>	CSA programs are required to help students meet graduation requirements. For this reason, CSA students should still be enrolled in CTE and WBL courses when relevant. Even though the school will not receive CTE funding, entering enrollments along with completion data will allow the Commission’s CTE team to help validate to IDOE that the student has met graduation requirements. Schools can record enrollments in InTERS for a CSA student using the same process they would for a non-CSA student. CHE will obtain a list of CSA students from the Treasurer’s Office and then remove those students from annual CTE funding calculations.
9	How does the CSA invoicing process work for schools?	The invoice process is the same for all CSA providers, whether they are schools, employers, intermediaries, etc. There are two payment options: 1) an “all-inclusive” program, with one bulk invoice for all students sent directly to the Treasurer of State’s Office; or 2) an “a la carte” program, where each student is invoiced individually. More information can be found on the Treasurer’s CSA Provider Resources page.

For additional information, please email csa@doe.in.gov.