The 2021 Special Session I of the General Assembly provided state funding for the Workplace Readiness Skills (WRS) for the Commonwealth Examination, including pretests, and/or other Board-approved industry certification assessments for fiscal year 2022 (SY 2021-2022) in the amount of $308,655. This general fund appropriation provides support to school divisions for standard diploma graduates. To provide flexibility, school divisions may use this allocation for any Board-approved industry certification preparation and testing. The funding allocation is distributed on the basis of SY 2020-2021 enrollment data for students in secondary (high school) Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses. The initial allocation is $0.47 per student enrolled in CTE courses. Attachment A lists the total allocation by school division. Reimbursement payments for regional CTE centers are listed in Attachment B and will be made available to the school division that serves as the fiscal agent. School divisions and regional CTE centers will be reimbursed and paid up to their original allocation amount.
Submission of WRS and/or Other Industry Certification Assessments Reimbursement for June 2021: Submit reimbursement requests on Attachment C for student exams and pretests that were taken between May 28 and June 30, 2021, to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) no later than October 31, 2021. These expenditures must cover credentialing pretests and tests that were taken by students between May 28 and June 30, 2021.

Submission of WRS and/or Other Industry Certification Assessment Reimbursement for SY 2021-2022: Submit reimbursement requests on Attachment C for SY 2021-2022 to the VDOE no later than May 20, 2022. These expenditures must cover credentialing pretests and tests taken by students during school year 2021-2022, but not later than May 20, 2022.

Any unclaimed funds will be reallocated on June 1, 2022, to school divisions and regional CTE centers that have submitted approved reimbursement requests that exceed their SY 2021-2022 allocation amount.

School divisions and regional CTE centers must use their entire allocation in this announcement before requesting reimbursement for additional pretests and tests from their CTE industry certification Lottery funds allocated for SY 2021-2022 as announced in Superintendent’s Memo #186-21. After both of the state allocations have been expended, school divisions and regional CTE centers may request reimbursement for industry certifications from their federal Perkins funds allocation.

Documentation of any reimbursement claims must be retained in the school division and must be available for audit in accordance with state policies for record retention and disposition of financial records.

For more information

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education at CTE@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2052.

JFL/GRW/aar

A. Attachment: FY 2022 (School Year 2021-2022) WRS for the Commonwealth and/or Other Industry Certification Assessments, Allocation by School Division (DOCX)
B. Attachment: [FY 2022 (School Year 2021-2022) WRS for the Commonwealth and/or Other Industry Certification Assessments, Allocation by Regional CTE Center](DOCX)

C. Attachment: [CTE WRS for the Commonwealth and/or Other Industry Certification Assessments Reimbursement Request Form](DOCX)