Memorandum

To: Educational Community

From: Leah Amstutz, Director of Career-Technical Education, Ohio Department of Education
Dr. Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Articulation and Transfer, Ohio Department of Higher Education

Date: April 7, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG) College Credit

Dear Colleagues,

At the recommendation of Chancellor Randy Gardner and Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria, we are providing the attached guidance for Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG) Credit for students who will not be able to complete the WebXam associated with their secondary career technical courses.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education, working closely with our partners at the Ohio Department of Education and other stakeholders, developed this guidance in order to ensure that secondary career technical education students remain eligible for the CTAG credit they would have earned had WebXams been available. Please see the attached guidance document.

The guidance is consistent with our philosophy that, as much as possible, students should be held harmless when their studies have been disrupted by the unprecedented actions taken to ensure the safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 crisis. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding how this policy will fit into the CTAV process. Please feel free to contact either one of us if you have additional questions or suggestions as together we strive to serve the students of Ohio.

Dr. Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Ohio Department of Higher Education,
pcompton@highered.ohio.gov

Leah Amstutz ,Director of Career-Technical Education, Ohio Department of Education,
leah.amstutz@education.ohio.gov

Attachment

COVID-19 EDUCATION INFORMATION: ENSURING SECONDARY STUDENTS RECEIVE CAREER-TECHNICAL ASSURANCE GUIDE (CTAG) CREDIT

On March 12, 2020, Governor Mike DeWine ordered all of Ohio's public, community and private K-12 school buildings to be closed to students--initially for a three-week period. The Governor has since extended that order through May 1, 2020.

In response to these actions, the Ohio general assembly waived this year's state testing requirements, including WebXams, in order to protect the health and safety of students. Ohio's career-technical education associations voiced concerns about students' ability to receive earned post-secondary Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG) credit, because passing scores on WebXam assessments are needed for students to be eligible for articulated credit when they matriculate at one of Ohio's public higher education institutions.

Both the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recognized that an alternative measure was needed to provide students with credits they would normally have earned and to maintain accountability systems and career-technical program review processes.   The following guidance meets those objectives.

POLICY GUIDANCE: USE OF COURSE GRADES

The Chancellor has approved a temporary change to Ohio's articulation and transfer policy so that student course grades can be used in lieu of the traditional end-of-course WebXam assessments. This change is in effect for all students enrolled in a career-technical education course in the 2019-2020 academic year and may be extended further, depending on future actions taken in response to COVID-19.

Alternative to Calculate WebXam Scores
For the 2019-2020 school year, the following rules will be used as the alternative to calculate WebXam scores for all students enrolled in a career-technical education course during the 2019-2020 academic year:

- **Advanced score:** A grade of A in the career-technical education course will equate to an Advanced score on the WebXam;
- **Proficient score:** A grade of B or C (or a "Pass" if graded on a Pass/Fail scale) in the career-technical education course will equate to a Proficient score on the WebXam.
- **Not proficient:** A grade of D or F (or a "Fails" if graded on a Pass/Fail scale) will equate to a Not Proficient score on the WebXam.

Proposed All Student End-of-Course Exam	
FY 2020 Course Grade	**WebXam Score Reported**
A	A – Advanced
B	P – Proficient
C	P – Proficient
D	N – Not Proficient
F	N – Not Proficient
P (on P/F scale)	P – Proficient
F (on P/F scale)	N – Not Proficient

Further information on EMIS reporting will be provided in the near future.