

fulfilling occupational, civic, social and community responsibilities shall be an integral part of this program plan.

(2) *Pennsylvania academic standards.* Pennsylvania academic standards under Chapter 4 (relating to academic standards and assessment) shall be integrated within the technical curriculum and instruction.

(3) *CIP Code.* Programs will be identified by CIP code.

(4) *Planned instruction.* Planned instruction must include the integration of academic, career development and technical curricula at the secondary level.

(5) *Occupational analysis.* The occupational analysis conducted by the school entity under § 339.4(a) (relating to program approval) must lead to clearly stated performance objectives deemed critical to successful employment, and assessment of student competencies based upon performance standards.

(6) *Industry standards.* Programs must prepare students to meet industry-defined standards, certifications, regulations or licensing agreements demonstrated through industry assessment, industry credentials, industry certification, license or State assessment.

(7) *License requirements.* Programs designed to provide students with the background to meet certification and licensure requirements must meet the standards of the licensing agency and be supervised or administered according to the certifying or licensing agency, Parts I and II (relating to State Board of Education; and standards). Information on legal requirements or limitations relating to the occupations for which they are preparing shall be given to all students in writing.

(8) *Extended classroom and work-based learning.* The program must provide students an opportunity to acquire experience in appropriate work situations related to their vocational program of study. When the traditional shop or laboratory cannot simulate the work situation, the classroom may be extended to a cooperating agency or business as long as the educational objectives are being met. Health occupations curriculum preparing individuals for direct patient care must provide clinical experience as an integral part of the curriculum.

(9) *Minimum time requirements.*

(i) The school entity may develop vocational education programs for any time length as long as they do not go below the minimums listed in this subsection. Vocational programs may range in duration from 1 year to 4 years, and the following represents the minimum total hours required for a program sequence:

(A) *One year sequence.* A vocational technical education program existing in the 12th grade when students have met their academic graduation requirements but require technical courses only, and lasting 1 year in duration must provide a minimum total of 720 hours of vocational program instruction by the end of the program year.

(B) *Two year sequence.* A vocational technical education program consisting of 2 sequential years must provide a minimum total of 720 hours of vocational program instruction by the end of the program sequence.

(C) *Three year sequence.* A vocational technical education program consisting of 3 sequential years must provide a minimum total of 1,080 hours of vocational program instruction by the end of the program sequence.

(D) *Four year sequence.* A vocational technical education program consisting of 4 sequential years must provide a minimum total of 1,320 hours of vocational program instruction by the end of the program sequence.

(ii) The following requirements shall be considered in planning vocational education programs based on the minimum time requirements listed in subparagraph (i):

(A) Vocational education credits may be given for hours spent in supervised agricultural experience, cooperative clinical experiences and other supervised occupational experience occurring during or after the school day as defined in the Public School Code.

(B) A minimum of two planned courses shall be operated per year. These two planned courses shall be skilled courses.

(C) Sequences shall be offered in consecutive years and the last year of the program will conclude in the twelfth grade.

(D) This section includes the minimum requirements for a program to be eligible for vocational reimbursement. It is recognized that selected vocational programs may require more than the minimum hours to offer an effective education program.

(b) *Exceptional programs requirements.* Exceptional programs could include any of the occupational areas defined in this section. See subsection (a). An exceptional program will be approved to address special needs documented by the school entity. The program content shall be designed in accordance with one of the following standards-based plans:

(1) *Special vocational.* A plan designed to meet the vocational education requirements of special needs students in accordance with a least restrictive environment and their IEPs.

(2) *Experimental.* Special pilot, experimental, exemplary or innovative programs, which do not fit within the structure of any of the plans, may be approved on an annual basis after review by the Secretary.

(c) *Diversified occupations program requirements.* Diversified occupations programs may include any of the occupational areas defined in subsection (a) or other occupational areas not offered at the comprehensive high schools or AVTS. The diversified occupations program shall be available as a 1-year or 2-year program. This program is for 11th and 12th grade students who are unable to gain admission to a vocational program due to excessive numbers of applicants, inability