Tennessee Pathways Certification Benefits

The [Tennessee Pathways Certification](https://example.com) recognizes high schools that have developed clear and guided pathways for their students that are built upon partnerships among K-12, postsecondary education, and employers. Certified Pathways demonstrate alignment to high-quality employment opportunities in the region and signal to external stakeholders such as community members, employers, and families, that a school's programs meet rigorous expectations. High schools earning the Certification not only better prepare their students for life after graduation but are also eligible for the following benefits:

- **Marketing materials:** Tennessee Pathways recognizes the need for assisting districts and their partners as they market their pathways and experiences for students. With the help of pathway specific marketing materials, districts can ensure that students and their families have the tools to make appropriate and informed decisions about college and career opportunities. Tennessee Pathways, in collaboration with the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) and Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE), will provide tailored marketing materials to districts who earn the Tennessee Pathways Certification in the 2021 application cycle.

- **Public recognition:** Leadership from TDOE, TBR, and Tennessee Pathways will publicly recognize schools and districts earning the Certification as a part of an exclusive statewide event announcing all Certified Tennessee Pathways in spring 2022. Additionally, since the inaugural certification in 2018-19, districts and pathways have received numerous invitations to share their best practices with regional, state, and national audiences.

- **Resources and technical assistance:** Tennessee is a founding member of the national [Pathways to Prosperity](https://example.com) network. Districts participating in the Tennessee Pathways Certification process will gain access to expert resources, research, promising practices, and technical assistance from Tennessee Pathways regional coordinators and our national partners at the Pathways to Prosperity network. Additionally, as Tennessee Pathways continues to develop a portfolio of local, regional, and state best practices, all participating districts will have access to a continually growing cache of data, best practices, and partnership development assistance specific to their region, district, and pathway needs.

- **Perkins Reserve Grant opportunity:** Expanding student access to Certified Pathways will be a focus area of the Perkins Reserve Grant process in spring 2022. Certified Pathways application materials will be integral to strong Perkins Reserve applications.

- **Perkins V alignment:** The 2021 Tennessee Pathways Certification application directly aligns with the Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) requirement. High-quality CLNAs will result in both strong local plans and competitive Pathways applications.