

# Technical Skills Assessment – Fact Sheet

## OVERVIEW:

Perkins IV increases the accountability of career and technology education programs by specifying the types of assessment used to measure technical skills proficiency. Technical Skills Assessments are aligned with industry-recognized standards and measure the skills proficiency of concentrators who have completed a career education program.

With more than 25 years experience working with industry experts to develop skills standards and assessments, the CareerTech Testing Center has more than 100 valid, reliable technical skills assessments. All standards and assessment are aligned with available state and/or national industry standards. In addition, assessments are reviewed annually using subject matter experts from business and industry to ensure that all test items are valid, timely, and statistically sound.

## TEST CONTENT:

Technical Skills Assessments typically contain between 55 and 65 multiple-choice test items. Some tests, however, may have as many as 100 multiple-choice test items. Each question has one correct answer and three plausible, but incorrect distracters – “trick” questions are not included on the assessments.

Tests are administered online through a web-based platform. Each test-taker has access to the entire assessment and can move freely throughout the assessment until it is submitted for scoring. Once the assessment has been scored, however, responses cannot be changed and/or resubmitted

Each assessment typically takes approximately one hour to complete. Although the tests **are not** timed, they must be completed in one testing session.

## PREPARATION:

Skills standards link industry certification requirements and assessments by identifying the knowledge and skills necessary for success in a chosen career pathway or occupation. These skills standards also provide a roadmap for the development of technical skills assessments. Skills standards can be accessed and downloaded free of charge from our website.

Use textbooks, curriculum materials and instructional supplements to revisit information presented throughout the program. After reviewing the Skill Standards, instructors may be able to identify additional resources that can be used to prepare for the assessment.

To access our Skill Standards for all available assessments within each Cluster area, please click [here](#).