



HOPES Award Recognition Model for CTE Students

The purpose of the *Hurdling Obstacles to Provide Excellence for Society (HOPES) Award* recognition model is to highlight the achievement of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Special Populations students. This recognition of individual students also provides an opportunity to showcase CTE programs at your school, increase awareness of the CTE contributions to the community, and broaden the partnerships of business and industry working together for success in CTE.

Special Populations students include English language learners, pregnant/parenting teens, economically disadvantaged students, individuals with disabilities, and students pursuing nontraditional occupations.

**To learn more about the model visit ICSPS at
www.icsps.ilstu.edu/projects/hopes**

HOPES Award Recognition Model

General Information

Purpose

The purpose of the Hurdling Obstacles to Provide Excellence for Society (**HOPES**) Award Recognition Model is to highlight the achievement of Career and Technical Education Special Populations students and increase the knowledge/understanding about Special Populations within educational institutions/organizations. The **HOPES** award provides an opportunity to:

- Recognize the achievement of individuals CTE students who have overcome barriers.
- Showcase CTE programs in local schools.
- Increase the advocacy for visibility of CTE.
- Increase the number of individuals and organizations working to further assist success for all CTE students.
- Broaden the partnerships working together for the success of CTE students.
- Increase awareness of CTE contributions to school and community.
- Impact the Federal Perkins reporting indicators.

Eligibility Criteria

Student must be:

- A member of one of the Perkins-defined Special Populations groups: individuals with disabilities, economically disadvantaged, English language learners, single parents, or individuals preparing for occupations which are nontraditional for gender (see the **HOPES** Special Populations Glossary)
- A sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in an Illinois public high school, or area career center in a state-approved Career and Technical Education program.
- Maintaining a satisfactory grade point average (3.0 program average, 2.5 cumulative GPA) **OR** improved his/her grade point average.

Availability

The **HOPES** Packet is available for download at www.icsps.ilstu.edu/projects/hopes. Further information and additional resources to support Special Populations learners can also be found at this site.



HOPES Award Recognition Model Resources

The **HOPES** Award Packet consists of the following documents to assist in the local implementation of the **HOPES** award:

- **HOPES General Marketing and Awareness Flyer**
An informational sheet that may be disseminated to a variety of audiences.
- **HOPES General Information and Resources**
The purpose, eligibility, resources, and recommended timeline for use in planning and implementing the **HOPES** Award at any educational institution are outlined in this document.
- **Special Populations Glossary**
HOPES awardees must be members of a special population; learn information about each special population with this glossary.
- **Sample HOPES Award Winners**
Provided to give a better picture of the student the **HOPES** award is designed to recognize, this document can help in planning for award implementation and for educating an awards committee.
- **HOPES Award Student Application Information***
For dissemination to interested/eligible students, this document may be given directly to students, posted on bulletin boards, in classrooms, etc... If local **HOPES** committee chooses to use teacher/staff nominations, all student sheets can be delivered with the notification of nomination.
- **HOPES Award Student Application & Consent Form***
One of the main goals of the **HOPES** award is to raise awareness of CTE and the success of Special Populations within CTE. Media coverage is one means to increased awareness but necessitates student (and possibly parent) consent. These forms should be included with student applications.
- **HOPES Award Student Nominee Questions***
These questions are part of the student application, and should be answered by students on a separate sheet of paper and included along with the consent form and letters of recommendation when applying for the award.
- **The remaining documents are available for use by local HOPES Award committees when selecting awardees and disseminating award information:**
 - a. **Scoring Rubric**
Assists in choosing the awardee(s) who best matches the **HOPES** ideals.
 - b. **News Release Template with blanks***
Assists local **HOPES** Award committees in publicizing their outstanding students.
 - c. **Sample News Release Template**
Provides an understanding of the format of the News Release Template.
 - d. **Certificate Request Form***
Gives awardees 'official' recognition. This form should be completed and returned to the address listed on the form.

*Document contains a spot for personalization by sponsoring school.



HOPES Award Recognition Model

Suggested Implementation Timeline

Suggested Implementation Timeline For Schools, Career Centers or Other CTE Organizations

The **HOPES** award is designed to be implemented at the local high school or career center. Below is a suggested timeline for implementation of the **HOPES** Award Recognition Program. For nearly every step, documents and resources have already been prepared for the convenience of the local educational entity. Many of these documents have spots for personalization by the local educational entity, and all of the documents can be found in the **HOPES** Award Packet, or at www.icsps.ilstu.edu/projects/hopes.

Fall Semester

- **HOPES** Award Recognition Program Committee convened, or Chairperson appointed
- Award tailored for local implementation, including
 - Decisions on venues for dissemination of award information
 - Selection of venues for spring award presentations
 - Determination of application deadline
 - Information flyer disseminated to instructors and CTSO sponsors by local administrator
 - Announcement of application availability made to students

Spring Semester

- Within two weeks of application deadline, Chairperson/Committee convened to
 - Review applications/select awardees
 - Prepare communications for applicants, awardees, and general dissemination
- Venue for announcing the awards confirmed and prepared
- **HOPES** certificates for qualifying applicants requested from Illinois **HOPES** Award Coordinator
- Certificates issued to qualifying students
- Press releases prepared and disseminated



Special Populations* Glossary

Individuals with Limited English Proficiency (also known as English Language Learner) — A secondary school student, an adult, or an out-of-school youth...

- who has limited ability in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language, and-
- whose native language is a language other than English; or
- who lives in a family or community environment in which a language other than English is the dominant language.

Individuals with Disabilities — The term “disability” with respect to a person means an individual with...

- a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such an individual,
- a record of such an impairment, or
- being regarded as having such an impairment. (The term “impairment” does not include characteristics of or predisposition to illness or disease.)

Individuals from Economically Disadvantaged Families, Including Foster Children —

The term “economically disadvantaged family or individual” refers....

to such families or individuals who are determined by the Secretary to be low-income according to the latest available data from the Department of Commerce. Secondary level identification may be made by the following criteria:

- eligibility for free or reduced-price school lunch
- eligibility for participation in programs assisted under the Workforce Investment Act
- eligibility for TANF/public assistance funds
- annual income of the individual or family is at or below the national poverty level or the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois

Individuals Preparing for Nontraditional Training and Employment — The term “nontraditional training and employment” means....occupations or fields of work—including careers in computer science, technology, and other emerging high-skill occupations—from which individuals from one gender comprise less than 25% of the individuals employed in each such occupation for field of work. Examples of nontraditional occupations include female welders and male nurses.

Single Parents, Including Single Pregnant Women — The term “single parent” means an individual who....

- is unmarried or legally separated from a spouse **AND**
- has a minor child or children for which the parent has either custody or joint custody **OR** is pregnant.

* Special Populations as defined in the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, and preceding versions of the same legislation.



Example

HOPES Award Winners



G. Martin

After taking an exploratory course at her local high school, Gina Martin was excited to find a potential career where she could combine her skill in design and her love of cars: Auto Body Specialist. Some of her friends and family members discouraged Gina from pursuing a “man’s job” in the auto body field, but she only became more determined. She applied herself enthusiastically, and took a leadership role in the local Technology Students of America (TSA) chapter, and has advanced into the State competition the last two years in a row. Through this leadership role, she encouraged other girls at her school to explore studies in the automotive program. Gina also works after school at Belkin’s One-Stop Auto Shop, and volunteers at the community animal shelter.

D. Garcia

Daniel Garcia has a dream of owning his own business. As one of five children raised by a single parent, Danny works hard at home and school to be a role model for his siblings. Danny’s high school offers dual credit courses with the local community college, and Danny has enrolled in as many of these classes as his schedule permits. Through a mentoring program at his high school, Danny developed a solid relationship with Maria Sanchez, a local business owner. As Ms. Sanchez helped Danny develop a business plan, she also assisted him in overcoming some of the language barriers which come with being an English Language Learner. As his business plan outlines, Danny will continue his education at the local community college, and then transfer to a university to complete a bachelor’s degree in business. After graduation he will take the next steps outlined in his plan to work towards his entrepreneurial dream.

HOPES Award

Student Application Information

Dear **HOPES** Award Applicant,

The **HOPES** (Hurdling Obstacles to Provide Excellence to Society) Award provides recognition to Career and Technical Education (CTE) students who have overcome barriers to success. This application process will give you an opportunity to share your CTE achievement. We also invite you to name an obstacle which **COULD** have kept you from succeeding, but which, because of your persistence and hard work, only served to make your achievement more significant.

Eligibility

You must meet several criteria to apply for this award. You must be:

- A sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in an Illinois public high school, or area career center in a state-approved Career and Technical Education program.
- Maintaining a satisfactory grade point average (3.0 program average, 2.5 cumulative GPA) **OR** have improved your grade point average.
- Overcoming (or having overcome) obstacles which could have hindered your success.

Recognition

HOPES awardees will be issued a personalized certificate signed by an Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) official which will be awarded to you at an existing local school sponsored event. Your award will be noted in the local paper and in school newsletters. You are encouraged to note this prestigious award on your resume and on applications for employment/continuing education.

Apply

To apply for this award, please complete the following:

- **HOPES** Information and Consent Form
- **HOPES** Student Nominee Questions Form
- Two letters of recommendation. One must be from your CTE instructor and one from another adult who is not related to you.

Due Date

Please contact your local career center or high school **HOPES** committee administrator (contact information below) for this date.

Send your nomination packet to:



HOPES Award

Student Nominee Questions Form



Short Answer Questions: On a separate sheet of paper, please answer each question in 200 words or less and be sure to number your answers.

1. Describe your reasons for choosing Career and Technical Education. (5 points)
2. What are your future career plans? (10 points)
3. Describe how you have acted as a mentor or role model for another student. (10 points)
4. Who has been a role model or mentor for you? How has this person affected your life? (5 points)
5. What obstacle have you overcome in order to have success in Career and Technical Education? (15 points)
6. Please list any additional information about specific school or outside activities that you believe the Award Committee should know. *Only list responsibilities and achievement you have had during the last 2-3 years.* (5 points)

Some Suggestions of What To Share Here Include:

- Current awards or achievement (provide dates)
- Activities, such as job-shadowing, work, or club affiliations
- Family responsibilities
- School or community involvement
- Volunteer experiences
- Recently completed at-home or community projects

Essay: Please choose one of the following options:

- A. Write an essay of 500 words or less that answers the question: How has Career and Technical Education affected your life? (25 points).

OR

- B. Submit work an artifact or artifacts samples, pictures, a portfolio, etc... with written explanation (of up to 300 words) to illustrate how CTE has affected your life. (25 points).

HOPES Award

Student Application & Consent Form



Name _____

Name of School _____

Name of CTE Program _____

Consent Statement

When you sign this statement, you are giving us (Local School **HOPES** Committee) permission to use information contained in this award packet for publicity purposes. If you are chosen, you will become a role model for other students, which involves sharing your success story. You must sign the consent statement below to participate in the **HOPES** Award. Action photos may be used as illustrations of Career and Technical Education role models.

I, _____, am aware that I have been nominated as a candidate for the **HOPES** Award. I understand that the information in the award forms may be used for publicity and nontraditional role model purposes. I agree to allow my application information to be used to promote Career and Technical Education.

Student Signature

Date

For students under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must also sign the following consent statement:

I _____, give my permission for _____ to be nominated for the **HOPES** award. I understand that the information in his/her award forms may be used for publicity and role model purposes. I agree to allow his/her application information and photos to be used to promote Career and Technical Education.

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

HOPES Award Scoring Rubric



Step 1: Check eligibility

Is the student:

- A member of one of the Perkins-defined Special Populations groups: individuals with disabilities, economically disadvantaged, English language learners, single parents, or individuals preparing for occupations which are nontraditional for gender (see additional document for further description).
- A sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in an Illinois public high school, or area career center in a state-approved Career and Technical Education program.
- Maintaining satisfactory grade point average (3.0 program average, 2.5 cumulative GPA) *OR* improved his/her grade point average.

Is each item checked? If yes, proceed with scoring. If no, STOP and eliminate application.

Step 2: Award points based on rubric (see below)

Step 3: Tabulate total points

Step 4: Decide on range of acceptable points for awards

Question	Full Points	Half Points	Zero Points	Points Awarded
Reasons for choosing CTE (5)	Incorporates past experiences or discovered new expertise	Guidance counselor suggested or friend recommended	Just happened on it or had no other choices	/5
Future career plans (10)	Developed a clear, individual career plan	Has some ideas for future education or career	Undecided	/10
Mentor or role model for another student (10)	Assisted another student to enter or be retained in CTE	Role model/mentor values but unimplemented	Lack of mentor or role model values	/10
Received mentoring/been affected by role model (5)	Identified and developed relationship with role model or mentor	Can name things learned from various individuals; no significant influence from one or two mentors	No apparent learning from others	/5
Overcome obstacles (15)	Achievement of success over significant obstacle	Limited success or small obstacle overcome	No obstacle or no success in overcoming that obstacle	/15
School/outside activities (5)	Three or more success-oriented school/outside activities	One or two success-oriented school/outside activities	None	/5
Essay: Affect of CTE on life (25)	Major influence, especially in overcoming obstacles	Significant influence	Made little difference in life	/25
Total				/75*

* It is suggested that awardees meet or exceed the 60 point threshold.

Press Release Sample



Press Release

ACC Students receive **HOPES** Award

Five Overton ACC students receive certificates from the Illinois State Board of Education for outstanding achievement in Career and Technical Education.

Normal, IL, September 23, 2010: **HOPES** (Hurdling Obstacles to Provide Excellence to Society) recognition was awarded to five Career and Technical Education students during a reception Friday at the Overton Career Center Café. Dr. V. Smart, Principal of Overton Area Career Center congratulated each student and his/her family by awarding certificates signed by an Illinois State Board of Education official. **HOPES** awards recognize students who overcome obstacles and achieve success in Career and Technical Education. Four of the recognized students are seniors and one is a junior. Their major fields of study include welding, health careers, business, and auto mechanics. The recognized students and their high schools are listed below:

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>School</u>
<u>Gina Martin</u>	<u>Sanford High School</u>
<u>Dan Garcia</u>	<u>Belkin High School</u>
<u>Sarah Smith</u>	<u>Belkin High School</u>
<u>Jose Cornejo</u>	<u>Fellowes Community High School</u>
<u>Carlene Perkins</u>	<u>Fellowes Community High School</u>

For further information, please contact

Dr. V. Smart Overton ACC Principal	12345 Main Street Normal, IL 00000 Phone: (555) 555-1234	HOPES Award
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Press Release Template



Press Release

Students receive **HOPES** Award

(#) (name of local school or area career center) students receive certificates from the Illinois State Board of Education for outstanding achievement in Career and Technical Education.

(Place of Award, Date) **HOPES** (Hurdling Obstacles to Provide Excellence to Society) recognition was awarded to (#) Career and Technical Education students during a (event) (day of week) at the (place of event). (Presenter of award), Title of Presenter of (name of local school or area career center) congratulated each student and his/her family by awarding certificates signed by an Illinois State Board of Education official. **HOPES** awards recognize students who overcome obstacles and achieve success in Career and Technical Education. (#) of the recognized students are seniors, (#) are juniors, and (#) are sophomores. Their major fields of study include (CTE programs of study). The recognized students, their high schools are listed below:

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>School</u>

For further information, please contact

EFE Director, ACC Administrator, or High School Principal Phone Fax	_____Main Street City, State 00000 Phone Fax	HOPES Award
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HOPES Award Certificate Request

Dear Illinois **HOPES** Award Coordinator,

The **HOPES** Award committee at _____ Career Center/
High School/CTE Organization has reviewed applications for the **HOPES** (Hurdling Obstacles
for Providing Excellence to Society) Award. On the basis of their successful achievement success in
Career and Technical Education programs by overcoming barriers, we recommend that these students
receive a **HOPES** Award certificate.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Area of CTE Study</u>

Thank you for the opportunity to recognize these Special Populations students for their excellence
in CTE.

Sincerely,

Local **HOPES** Award Chairperson



Please send signed certificates to me at the address below.

Please mail or e-mail requests to:
 Illinois **HOPES** Award Coordinator
 Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support
 705 E. Lincoln Ave. Suite 313
 Normal, IL 61761
 icsps@ilstu.edu