The Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) is the foundation for all Perkins V-funded activities. It ensures that local Career and Technical Education (CTE) investments are data-driven, equitable, and aligned with workforce needs. The CLNA must be completed at least once every two years and directly informs the annual local plan and budget.

**Section 134 – Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment**

**Who must complete it**

* Every eligible recipient (e.g., community college) receiving Perkins funds must complete a CLNA at least once every two years.
* The CLNA must be done before funds are spent and updated as needed to guide annual planning.

**Purpose**

* Provide a data-driven process to identify local strengths, gaps, and priorities in Career and Technical Education (CTE).
* Ensure Perkins investments align with student needs, workforce demands, and equity goals.

**Required Review Areas**

Recipients must evaluate and include data, analysis, and stakeholder input for:

1. **Student Performance**
   * Review Perkins performance indicators, disaggregated by special populations and subgroups.
   * Identify performance and equity gaps.
2. **Size, Scope, and Quality of Programs**
   * Determine if programs meet state-defined quality standards and have sufficient enrollment and resources.
3. **Labor Market Alignment**
   * Use labor market data to confirm programs align with high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand occupations.
4. **Programs of Study**
   * Assess progress toward full programs of study (and their rigor and relevance).
5. **Recruitment, Retention, and Professional Development of Faculty and Staff**
   * Identify needs and gaps in CTE educator hiring, retention, and training.
6. **Access and Equity**
   * Evaluate strategies to increase access for special populations and reduce barriers.

**Stakeholder Engagement**

Colleges must actively consult with:

* Educators, administrators, and counselors
* Students and parents
* Representatives of special populations
* Workforce development boards and industry partners
* Community-based organizations

**Use of CLNA Results**

* Findings from the CLNA must directly shape the **local plan** for Perkins funds.
* Perkins-funded activities must address the gaps and priorities identified in the CLNA.

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