April 1, 2025

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Expansion of ACCESS Virtual Learning Career and Technical
Education Course Offerings

Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators & Students Statewide (ACCESS), the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)-approved premier virtual learning program, is pleased to announce the expansion of career and technical education (CTE) course offerings for the 2025-2026 school year. These additions will provide students with expanded pathways and opportunities to achieve CTE completer status as indicated in Memorandum FY22-2065 and meet select criteria for the Alabama High School Diploma-Option B (AHSD-Option B) for the graduating classes of 2026 and 2027 and the select criteria for the Alabama High School Diploma-Option B for the graduating classes of 2028 and beyond.

Currently, ACCESS Virtual Learning offers one complete pathway in the Business Management and Administration cluster. ACCESS offers the complete Business Information Technology Program that includes the foundation courses of Business Software Applications I and Career Preparedness, as well as the concentrator courses of AP Computer Science A and Web Development.

For the 2025-2026 school year, ACCESS is scheduled to expand its CTE offerings by adding the programs listed on the following page.

CTE Cluster	CTE Program	ACCESS Foundation Course(s)	ACCESS Concentrator Courses
Business Management and Administration	Business Management	• Business Software Applications I • Career Preparedness	• Entrepreneurship • Economics and Financial Services (Fall 2025) • Data Analytics (Fall 2025)
Finance	Accounting	• Business Software Applications I • Career Preparedness • Personal Finance (1.0 cr)	• Accounting • Data Analytics (Fall 2025) • Economics and Financial Services (Fall 2025)
Finance	Financial Management	• Business Software Applications I • Career Preparedness • Personal Finance (1.0 cr)	• Entrepreneurship • Data Analytics (Fall 2025) • Economics and Financial Services (Fall 2025)
Health Science	Health Science	• Foundations of Health Science - Required Foundation Course (Fall 2025)	• Forensic Science and Crime Scene Investigations • Human Body Structures and Functions (Fall 2025) • Medical Terminology (Fall 2025) • Safety and Health Regulations (Fall 2025)
Marketing	Professional Sales	• Business Software Applications I • Career Preparedness	• Entrepreneurship • Data Analytics (Fall 2025)

Additionally, the ACCESS course development team is working to develop the Foundations in Education (2025), Safety and Health Regulations (2025), and Network Fundamentals or other Information Technology course (2026), which align with other CTE clusters and programs. These are in addition to the courses currently available on the ACCESS course list.

It is important to clarify that these are not new CTE pathways; rather, the delivery of the courses is new. School counselors and career coaches are encouraged to use the CTE Program Guides along with the current ACCESS course listing to explore these newly delivered CTE pathway opportunities for students.

If any of the CTE programs listed above will be **new** to your district for the 2025-2026 school year, please complete the abbreviated new program application form linked here: Program Application form by May 1, 2025. This streamlined process is designed to maximize student options for meeting AHSD-Option B requirements. Once the form is submitted, please follow the standard process for officially declaring these programs at each school.

ACCESS courses are taught by certified teachers, are available at no cost to your local education agency (LEA) and come with ongoing support from one of our three ACCESS Support Centers. CTE programs offered through ACCESS will be subject to program quality reviews to ensure continuous improvement and alignment with industry standards. While ACCESS Virtual Learning provides the comprehensive coursework, the administration of Career Readiness Indicator (CRI) exam(s) remains the sole responsibility of the LEA, in accordance with the Alabama CTE CRI guidance.

If you have any questions about this memo, please complete this form. If you have specific questions regarding ACCESS Virtual Learning, please contact the ACCESS Support Center for your LEA. Thank you for your continued commitment to expanding opportunities for Alabama students.

EGM/MS/SEG

cc: City and County Career and Technical Education Directors
        City and County Career and Technical Education Counselors
        City and County Career Coaches
        City and County CCR Key Program Contacts
        City and County High School Counselors
        City and County High School Principals
        Mrs. Angela Martin
        Mr. Dodd Hawthorne
        Dr. Melissa Shields
        Mrs. Sue Ellen Gilliland
        Ms. Dawn Morrison
        Mr. Sean J. Stevens

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