Career and Technical Education Incentive Grants
2025-26 Approved Certifications List
for District Incentive Grants and Student Completion Awards
March 6, 2025

This list includes the industry-recognized certifications approved for the 2025-26 academic year that are eligible for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grants program authorized by Wisconsin statutes 106.273.

The list:
- Is organized into the five certification categories.
- Provides the names of the certification entities and certifications approved for the 2025-26 academic year.
- Provides the documentation requirements for class of 2026 district incentive grant claims and student completion award claims.

The list is revised annually to ensure relevance to current industry needs and to align with program goals and requirements. District and school staff should use the most recent version published on the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) CTE web page for documentation requirements. The version date will be posted at the top of the published document.

School districts will benefit from having all staff members assigned roles with the CTE incentive grants attend the training provided for the various tasks required to submit high quality and relevant claims. Training is available through the Training & Resources tab on the DWD CTE Incentive Grants website.
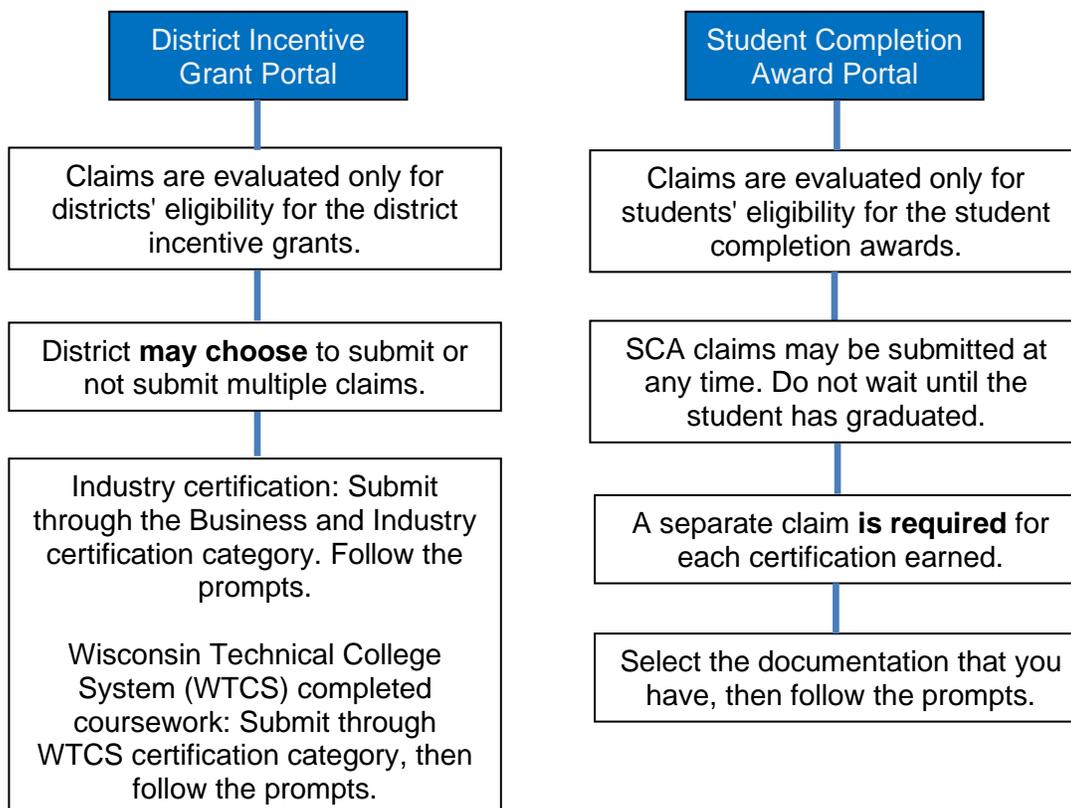
How to Use the Lists

Users may need to refer to previous annual lists to confirm that the certifications earned were approved **for the year they were earned.** The current list must be used to know the documentation requirements for claims submitted with the class of 2026. Lists from previous academic years are available on the CTE website.

1. Use the list from the year the certification was earned to confirm the certification was approved for the year it was earned.
2. Regardless of the year the certification was earned, locate the information in the last column on the table in this document to identify the documentation required to support the 2025-26 claim. If the certification appears on the list for the year that it was earned but is not on this list, it was probably discontinued but may still be eligible based on the year in which it was earned. If you have questions, contact DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov for guidance before creating a claim.
3. Ensure that your claim and documentation meet the requirements indicated for the specific certification.
4. Only the student personally identifiable information (PII) required to process the claim should be visible on unofficial transcripts and other documents. Districts are responsible for adhering to DPI's privacy policy.

The Updated List

No major changes to specific certifications have been made. Some minor changes were made to the list. Training on submitting claims for district incentive grants and student completion awards is available on the DWD CTE webpage. (Later in 2025, applications will be taken from school districts for new certifications to be added to the next year's list.)

The list has been reorganized because student completion award (SCA) claims are now being submitted through the SCA-specific claim portal. The following changes were made:

District Incentive Grant Portal	Student Completion Award Portal
Claims are evaluated only for districts' eligibility for the district incentive grants.	Claims are evaluated only for students' eligibility for the student completion awards.
District **may choose** to submit or not submit multiple claims.	SCA claims may be submitted at any time. Do not wait until the student has graduated.
Industry certification: Submit through the Business and Industry certification category. Follow the prompts. Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) completed coursework: Submit through WTCS certification category, then follow the prompts.	A separate claim **is required** for each certification earned.
	Select the documentation that you have, then follow the prompts.

Tips to Improve Claim Quality and Reduce Corrections

- Add deadlines to your electronic calendar and give plenty of time for submitting and correcting claims.

- Attend the training and use the resources provided.

- Gather, prepare, and submit the required documents; do not submit alternative documents.

- Contact DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with questions or to update the program lead about changes in district or school contact information.

- Submit a separate student completion award claim for each of the certifications that may make the student eligible for a student completion award. These are submitted in the SCA portal and are used solely for evaluating a student's eligibility for the awards.

- Only one claim per student can be approved for a district incentive grant. Please consider limiting the number of **district incentive grant claims** to two per student.

- Proactively manage your use of Microsoft Office Specialist licenses (free vs. purchased) **at the district level and be consistent across all district schools.** Submit claims only if the certifications were earned through licenses that your district purchased from Certiport.

- If you submit unofficial college transcripts for WTCS claims, remember to provide program numbers and names, highlight required courses when a transcript wasn't printed with the certificate or program name, and adhere to the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) student data privacy rules.

For More Information

For questions on DPI Cooperative Education Skill Standards Certificates, please contact Jessica Sloan at jessica.sloan@dpi.wi.gov.

For technical assistance related to submitting claims for district incentive grants, please create a DPI help ticket.

For all other questions including those related to Youth Apprenticeship, Business and Industry, WTCS, Certified Pre-Apprenticeship certificates, claim reviews, student completion awards, or adding certificates to the list, please contact DWD at DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov.

Visit Wisconsin Statutes 106.273 to view the CTE Incentive Grants statutes.

	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2024-25 State Co-op Education Skills Standards: DPI Occupational (State Co-op)	Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources	Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI)	• State Co-op: Agribusiness – Animal Systems • State Co-op: Agribusiness – Plant Systems	None
	Business Management, and Administration	DPI	• State Co-op: Business Management and Administration	
	Education and Training	DPI	• State Co-op: Child Services	
	Finance	DPI	• State Co-op: Finance	
	Information Technology	DPI	• State Co-op: Information Technology	
	Human Services	DPI	• State Co-op: Family and Community Services	
	Hospitality and Tourism	DPI	• State Co-op: Food Service	
	Marketing	DPI	• State Co-op: Marketing • State Co-op: Advanced Marketing • State Co-op: Retail Management • State Co-op: Entrepreneurship • State Co-op: Sport and Entertainment Marketing • State Co-op: E-Commerce	

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification (All completed Youth Apprenticeship, or YA, checklists must be uploaded to the YA database by Sept. 30, 2026.)	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Youth Apprenticeship (YA)	Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD)	• YA - Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources - any pathway	None
	Architecture and Construction	DWD	• YA - Architecture and Construction - any pathway	
	Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications	DWD	• YA - Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications - any pathway	
	Business Administration	DWD	• YA - Business Administration - any pathway	
	Education and Training	DWD	• YA - Education and Training - any pathway	
	Finance	DWD	• YA - Finance - any pathway	
	Government and Public Administration	DWD	• YA - Government and Public Administration - any pathway	
	Health Science	DWD	• YA - Health Science - any pathway	
	Hospitality and Tourism	DWD	• YA - Hospitality and Tourism - any pathway	

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification (All completed YA checklists must be uploaded to the YA database by Sept. 30, 2026.)	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Youth Apprenticeship (YA)	Human Services	DWD	• YA - Human Services - any pathway	None
	Information Technology	DWD	• YA - Information Technology - any pathway	
	Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	DWD	• YA - Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security - any pathway	
	Manufacturing	DWD	• YA - Manufacturing any pathway	
	Marketing	DWD	• YA - Marketing - any pathway	
	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	DWD	• YA - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics - any pathway	
	Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	DWD	• YA - Transportation, Distribution and Logistics - any pathway	

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources	Briggs & Stratton Corporation	• Master Service Technician Requires the five to six individual certificates all dated within one year (Pressure Washers and Portable Generators is the sixth and is not necessary if the other five are dated after Sept. 1, 2022.)	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	• DNR Operator - Wastewater • DNR Operator - Municipal Waterworks • DNR Operator - Small Water System • DNR Operator - Septage • DNR Operator - Landfill Certification will be verified on the DNR registry.	Complete registry number
	Architecture and Construction	Carpenter's International Training Fund	• Career Connections - Level 3 Certificate	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		HVAC Excellence	• HVAC Excellence - Any Employment Ready Certification	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER)	• NCCER - Any specialty, including Core Curriculum	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		North American Building Trades Council	• Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3)	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		North American Technician Excellence Certification	• HVAC Support Technician	Copy of signed and dated certificate

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	Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Architecture and Construction	Woodwork Career Alliance	• Core Credential • Sawblade* *Sawblade certificates dated before July 1, 2023, will be considered.	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications	Autodesk Certiport is the certification entity	Autodesk Certified User • Autodesk - Maya • Autodesk - 3dsMax	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Adobe Certiport is the certification entity	Adobe Certified Professional (ACP) • ACP - Illustrator • ACP - InDesign • ACP - Photoshop • ACP - Premiere Pro	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Business Management and Administration	A*S*K Business Institute	• A*S*K - Any business or marketing certificate	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Google	• G-Suite Certificates dated 2019-retirement will be considered.	Copy of signed and dated certificate

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Business Management and Administration	Microsoft (MS) Certiport is the certification entity	MS - Office Specialist (MOS) 2019 or 365 apps only. Only these certifications are accepted: • MOS Associate* (requires Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and the full Associate certificates). • MOS - Word Expert (only one certificate) • MOS - Excel Expert (only one certificate) • MOS - Access Expert (only one certificate) *Only two MS program certificates are required when both are dated before July 1, 2023. Before submitting a claim, verify that each certificate in the claim was earned through a purchased license. Refer to your district's MOS license history. If your district does not have proof of purchasing the licenses, do not submit the claim.	Copy of signed and dated certificate(s)
	Education and Training	Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction	• Assistant Child Care Teacher • Infant Toddler	None
	Finance	A*S*K Business Institute	• A*S*K - Concepts of Finance	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Center for Financial Training though American Banking Association	• Bank Teller • Customer Service Representative	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Intuit	• QuickBooks Certified User	Copy of signed and dated certificate

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Health Science	American Medical Technologists	• Phlebotomy	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		American Society for Clinical Pathology	• Phlebotomy Technician	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Dental Assisting National Board	• National Entry Level Dental Assistant • Certified Dental Assistant	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		National Healthcareer Associations (NCA)	• NCA - Any certificate	Copy of signed and dated certificate

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Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) are certifications eligible for student completion awards (SCAs) in addition to the district incentive grants.

- Districts **must** submit the claims for the **SCAs** through the SCA claim portal and submit a separate SCA claim for **each** earned SCA certification.

- Districts **may** submit the claims for the related **district incentive grant** through the district incentive grant claim portal – the same as any other Specific Certification. Only one district incentive grant claim per student can be approved for a district incentive grant, so a district may choose to NOT submit some or any claims for district incentive grants for certifications related to the SCAs.

Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
Health Science	National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)	• EMR – NREMT (Emergency Medical Responder) • EMT – NREMT (Emergency Medical Technician) Certification will be verified on the NREMT registry. Registry number should begin with "R" for EMR or "E" for EMT.	Complete registry number
	Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)	• EMR – DHS (Emergency Medical Responder) • EMT – DHS (Emergency Medical Technician) Certification will be verified on the DHS registry. Registry number should begin with "7." No "TCTP" or asterisks.	Complete registry number
	EMR and EMT **district incentive grant claims** supported by WTCS completed coursework are to be submitted under the WTCS Certification Category. See the WTCS section for details.		

(Left vertical label: 2025-26 Business and Industry)

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Health Science	Pharmacy Technician Certification Board	• Pharmacy Technician	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)	• CNA (Certified Nurse Aide or Certified Nursing Assistant) Registry number will be verified on the Testmaster Universe (TMU) registry. Get the CNA form from the DWD CTE web page under Training and Resources. If the student is not on the TMU registry but completed WTCS coursework for Nurse Aide or Nursing Assistant, the claim must be submitted under the WTCS certification category.	Complete registry number and completed CNA form
			• Medication Aide • Feeding Assistant	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Hospitality and Tourism	American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute	• START (Skills, Tasks, And Results Training in Hospitality and Tourism Management) Requires all six certificates: Certified Front Desk Representative, Certified Restaurant Server, Certified Kitchen Cook, Certified Breakfast Attendant, Certified Guestroom Attendant, Certified Maintenance Employee.	Copy of signed and dated certificates
		National Restaurant Association	• Levels One and Two (Foundations of Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts)	Copies of both Levels One and Two Certificates of Recognition
			• ProStart®	Signed and dated Certificate of Achievement

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Information Technology	Adobe Certiport is the certification entity	Adobe Certified Professional (ACP) • ACP – Dreamweaver	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Apple Certiport is the certification entity	• Certified Support Professional • Apple Certified Professional • App Development with Swift	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Certiport	• Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC3) Information Technology Specialist (ITS)* • ITS - Databases • ITS - Device Configuration and Management • ITS - HTML and CSS • ITS - HTML5 Application Development • ITS - Java • ITS - JavaScript • ITS - Networking • ITS - Network Security • ITS - Python • ITS - Software Development *ITS replaced Microsoft MTA June 30, 2022.	Copy of signed and dated certificate

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Information Technology	Cisco	• IT Essentials • Certified Entry Networking Technician • Certified Network Associate • CCT – Routing and Switching	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		CIW	Web Foundations Associate	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		CompTIA	• A+ • Security+ • Network+ • Project+ • Cloud Essentials+ Cloud Essentials+ certificates dated before July 1, 2023 will be considered.	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Google	Google IT Support Professional	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Linux Professional Institute	Linux Essentials	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Microsoft (MS) Certiport is the verification entity	MS - Technology Associate (MTA) but only prior to July 1, 2022. See Certiport ITS above for the programs discontinued by Microsoft and picked up by Certiport.	Copy of signed and dated certificate(s)
		Oracle	Any Certified Junior Associate or higher	Copy of signed and dated certificate

Email DETCTEGrants@dwd.wisconsin.gov with any questions about certifications or documentation.

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2025-26 Business and Industry	Fire Fighter I (FF I), Fire Fighter II (FF II), and Fire Inspector are certifications eligible for student completion awards (SCAs) in addition to the district incentive grants.		
	• Districts **must** submit the claims for the **SCAs** through the SCA claim portal and submit a separate SCA claim for **each** earned SCA certification.		
	• Districts **may** submit the claims for the related **district incentive grant** through the district incentive grant claim portal – the same as any other Specific Certification. Only one district incentive grant claim per student can be approved for a district incentive grant, so a district may choose to NOT submit some or any claims for district incentive grants for certifications related to the SCAs.		

Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) via WTCS Fire Education Office	• FF I – IFSAC • FF II – IFSAC • Fire Inspector – IFSAC IFSAC fire services certifications will be verified on the Acadis registry.	Complete registry number
	FF I, FF II, and Fire Inspector **district incentive grant claims** supported by WTCS completed coursework are to be submitted under the WTCS Certification Category. See the WTCS section for details.		
Manufacturing	American Welding Society	• Level 1 SENSE/Entry Welder	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Haas	• CNC Certification	Copy of signed and dated certificate

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Manufacturing	Manufacturing Skills Standards Council	Certified Production Technician (CPT) • CPT - full program • CPT - Green Production • CPT - Maintenance Awareness • CPT - Manufacturing Processes and Production • CPT - Quality Practices and Measurement • CPT - Safety Module	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)	• NIMS - Any Industrial Technology Maintenance Level 1 certification • NIMS - Any Machining Level 1 or 2 certification	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Marketing	A*S*K Business Institute	• A*S*K - Any business or marketing certification	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	Autodesk Certiport is the certification entity	Autodesk Certified User • Autodesk - AutoCAD • Autodesk - Inventor • Autodesk - REVIT • Autodesk - Fusion 360	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		FANUC	• Certified Robot Operator 1	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Smart Automation Certification Alliance	Certified Industry 4.0 Associate • C101 - Basic Operations • C102 - Advanced Operations • C103 - Robot Systems • C104 - IoT and Data Analytics	Copy of signed and dated certificate

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Business and Industry	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	Snap-on via NC3 certification	• Snap-on - PMI (Precision Measurement Instruments)* • Snap-on - Or any two other certifications** *Requires all six certificates: Tape and Rule; Slide Caliper; Gauge; Angle; Micrometer; Dial Gauge. **May not be any of the PMI certificates.	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		SolidWorks	• Certified SolidWorks Associate • Certified SolidWorks Professional	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Transportation, Distribution and Logistics	Automotive Service Excellence Education Foundation (ASE)	• ASE Entry-Level Certification - Any area • ASE Student Career Development - Certificate of Achievement • ASE Certification* – Any area *This option is for certifications beyond student and entry levels.	Copy of signed and dated certificate
		Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair	• I-CAR Full Academy* • ProLevel 1 (retired) *Requires all five: Collision Repair Fundamentals, Disassembly and Reassembly, Plastic Repair, Aluminum and Steel Small Dent Removal, and Preparation for Refinish or the sixth certificate that encompasses all five smaller certificates.	Copy of signed and dated certificates
		Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles	• Commercial Driver License (CDL) If the student completed an **approved WTCS program** but did not earn the CDL, the claim should be submitted under the WTCS category.	Copy of commercial driver's license

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS)	SCA certifications are Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, and Fire Inspector. All claims for determining students' eligibility for student completion awards **must** be submitted in the SCA claim portal. Districts **may choose** to submit the related district incentive grant claims.			
	• Health Science	• WTCS for EMS	EMR - WTCS EMT - WTCS	State-approved program number in xx-xxx-x format **and** either: 1) A copy of certificate of program completion or diploma **or** 2) A copy of unofficial college transcript with program name highlighted, program number printed or written on it, and redacted in accordance with DPI guidance
	• Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	• WTCS for Fire Services	FF I - WTCS FF II - WTCS Fire Inspector - WTCS	
	All career clusters but program number must begin with 10-, 30-, 31-, 32-, or 61-	WTCS	Blackhawk Chippewa Valley Fox Valley Gateway Lakeshore Madison College Mid-State Milwaukee Area Moraine Park Nicolet College Northcentral Northeast Northwood Tech Southwest Waukesha County Western	
	Call your local technical college to verify that the program you are claiming is a state-approved Career Pathways Certificate (CPC) or Embedded Technical Diploma (ETD), ensure that you can provide the correct program number, and know that the student completed the program with the required grades.			

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	Career Cluster	Certification Entity	Specific Certification	Documentation Required for 2025-26 Claims
2025-26 Certified Pre-Apprenticeship	Any career cluster	Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards (BAS)	• Certified Pre-Apprenticeship Programs Will be verified by BAS.	Copy of signed and dated certificate
	Not all programs self-identifying as pre-apprenticeships are certified. To be considered for a district incentive award, the program must have been certified by BAS. The certificate must be dated on or after the date that BAS approved the certified pre-apprenticeship program.			