

Engaging Student and Community Voice

Leverage existing surveys for students and staff

Evaluate existing survey instruments and identify which questions can help provide needed input for the Perkins CLNA and DEI work at the college. If gaps exist, draft and review additional questions to help capture this information.

Include students and/or community members within college strategic planning

Have students and/or community members on college committees (e.g., DEI Advisory Committee). Remember that colleges can use Capacity Building Grant funds to help compensate students for their DEI work at the college. (Tribal Colleges can use Student Success funds).

Conduct a Data Equity Walk

To gather student and community feedback on equity gaps within Perkins and college data, conduct an interactive '[Data Equity Walk](#)', in which summary data (*remember to suppress information for small subgroups and any identifiable information*) are presented for a general audience and students, staff and community members can provide feedback, insights and questions. This equity walk could also incorporate sharing your college's Local Equity Report or findings from an equity audit from a third-party evaluator.

Provide opportunities for feedback at college and community events

At college and community events (e.g., conferences, networking sessions) provide surveys and/or feedback sessions so that students and community members can provide their insights.

Hold virtual listening sessions

To hear from students and the community, provide space for individuals to share their perspectives and experiences. Listening sessions could be focused on topic or kept general. To help facilitate these sessions, use online polling software and/or allow individuals to sign up to speak in advance with an online form. After those who registered to speak have been able to share, open the space for others to provide comment, time permitting.

Similarly, colleges can leverage Perkins grant funds (e.g., Capacity Building) for focus groups conducted by external consultants (e.g., [Ubuntu Research](#)).

Create a feedback portal on your college's website

Provide a webpage that allows students, faculty, staff and community members to anonymously submit feedback for topics covered within the comprehensive local needs assessment.

Co-Creation

Actively recruit and invite students and community members to help develop professional training opportunities and events with the support needed to actively participate. If the training/event focuses on supporting students from a particular background (e.g., LGBTQ), make sure that the students with this identity are included within the planning, and ideally include an intersectional group of students as often as possible (e.g., LGBTQ students with a range of abilities, ages, program declarations).