

FEA—A classroom is waiting . . .



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Future Educators Association Receives Federal Recognition**  
*Local Education Agencies Affiliated with FEA Eligible for Federal Funds*

Bloomington, IN—The Future Educators Association® (FEA), sponsored by PDK International, has just been named a federally-recognized [Career and Technical Student Organization \(CTSO\)](#) by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education. The first new CTSO to be recognized in more than two decades, FEA directly supports the U.S. Department of Education’s effort to ensure that there are great teachers and leaders in every school by offering effective pathways and practices for recruiting and preparing high-quality teachers and principals.

“I want to thank the Future Educators Association for 20 years of hard work to bring in the hardest working, most committed talent into our nation’s classrooms,” said [U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan in a taped welcome message for the 2010 FEA national conference](#). “We know how hugely important great teachers are to our nation’s children. I think there is nothing more important you can do with a lifetime of service than to dedicate it to the field of education.”

Now that FEA is a CTSO, local education agencies that are affiliated with FEA and using a state-approved CTE program of study are eligible for federal funding through the [Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 2006](#). Often referred to as the Perkins Act, this legislation places increased focus on the academic achievement of CTE students and designates more than \$1.2 billion to support innovation and program improvement. Depending on the requirements within a state, these funds may be used to support activities such as travel for adult advisors and students and the purchase of instructional materials.

“By elevating the image of teaching, the Future Educators Association strives to attract dynamic and diverse students to explore the education profession,” said Jeanne Storm, director of FEA. “One of FEA’s goals is to share the rewarding careers in education with historically underrepresented groups. Through this federal recognition, FEA’s effort in achieving this vision has been moved forward tremendously.”

Like all CTSOs—which include nationally-known groups like the National FFA Organization, Skills USA, DECA, and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America—FEA is an integral part of career and technical education (CTE). Just as all CTSOs provide unique programs of career and leadership development for secondary and post-secondary students enrolled in CTE programs, FEA enhances co-curricular programs for students interested in pursuing a career in education by providing personal growth opportunities through recognition and leadership activities directly related to the education profession. In addition to a student-led, professional conference, FEA provides students with scholarship opportunities; the chance to serve in leadership roles at the local, state, and national levels; access to a state-of-the-art social networking site with program and career resources; and activities and materials that help them explore the teaching profession in a variety of ways.

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Being recognized as a CTSO will further the mission of FEA, which is to foster the recruitment and development of prospective educators worldwide through the dissemination of innovative programming and relevant research. For more information about FEA as a CTSO, visit [www.futureeducators.org](http://www.futureeducators.org).

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#### **About the Future Educators Association®**

The Future Educators Association® (FEA) is a professional organization whose mission is to foster the recruitment and development of prospective educators worldwide through the dissemination of innovative programming and relevant research. FEA enhances co-curricular programs for students interested in education-related careers by providing personal growth opportunities through recognition and leadership activities directly related to the education profession. More information is online at [www.futureeducators.org](http://www.futureeducators.org).

#### **About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. Most well known for publishing *Kappan* magazine, PDK is committed to cultivating great educators for tomorrow and ensuring high-quality education for today. For more information, visit [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).