NAPE’s Equity Leadership Academy for States is supporting 10 states in adopting, strengthening, and embodying an equity lens as state leaders continue work on the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment for Perkins V. To date, cohort members have participated in a co-creation phase where they outlined needs specific to their state which directly informed the curriculum for the virtual equivalent to a 2-day equity training. The equity training covered topics including: NAPE’s PIPE framework and Equity Principles in the Perkins V CLNA, authentic community engagement and amplifying student voice, engaging in tough conversations about equity, and creating systems of support and accountability within institutions.

One of the most impactful elements of the Equity Leadership Academy are the student cohort members that represent each of the 10 participating states. These student members have courageously co-facilitated sessions within NAPE’s equity training and led a TA Call focused solely on how to effectively center and amplify student voice within CTE institutions and the Perkins V CLNA. Their wisdom has challenged us all to think more critically and creatively about how to truly create institutional cultures where students feel comfortable and empowered to share their voice. Now is the time to take direct action and transform our institutions into learning environments where the most marginalized students thrive.

We look forward to continuing our work with the first cohort through February 2021!