



Why Business and Industry Support CTE

- CTE programs in secondary and postsecondary institutions are developing **America's most valuable re-source—its people**; helping them gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience they need to prepare for high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers.
- CTE is developing a **skilled, sustainable workforce** for American business and industry.
- Baby boomers will be retiring at the rate of thousands per day over the next two decades.
- Experts predict **47 million job openings** in the decade ending 2018. About two-thirds will require an associate's degree or certificate, and nearly all will require real-world skills that can be mastered through CTE.
- Secondary, postsecondary and adult CTE programs are developing the skilled workforce companies need to increase **productivity and competitiveness**.
- A workforce educated through CTE represents a complete range of career areas across the entire economy—and is **driven by the needs and demands of employers**.
- Well-trained and highly-skilled workers will be best positioned to secure high-wage jobs over the next decade.

Ways for Business and Industry To Support CTE

- Offer **internships, mentorships and work-based learning experiences** to students who are interested in careers in their field.
- Provide **time and expertise** to CTE programs:
 - Volunteer their time to work with teachers and faculty at local high schools and community colleges to help plan appropriate curriculum to ensure that students are learning the most up to date academic and technical skills necessary.
 - Work part-time as teachers or faculty in CTE programs in the appropriate course or program of study.
 - Professionals seeking a different venue for their job skills could consider becoming a full-time CTE teacher.
- Participate in Career Cluster Advisory Committees to help **design curriculum frameworks** and supportive materials.
- Participate in a local CTE program advisory committee to enhance the quality of graduating students available to your company and community,
- Use their power as business and industry professionals to **advocate for CTE** at the local, state and federal levels. It is important for business and industry to share with policymakers the value and impact of CTE for our nation's employers.