

2014 Year in Review

State Policies Impacting CTE

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Background and Context

- Federal policies
 - Perkins
 - WIOA
 - HEA
 - Senate and Congressional CTE Caucuses
- States have been actively passing legislation affecting CTE and workforce development

- Second annual release
- Methodology
- Found activity in 46 states and D.C.



State Policies Impacting CTE

2014 Year in Review

Although this is only the second annual *State Policies Impacting CTE: 2014 Year in Review*, a clear pattern is emerging. For the second year in a row, a significant number of states have developed and implemented new policies and programs to advance career and technical education (CTE) at the secondary and postsecondary levels.

Just as we found in the *2013 Year in Review*, nearly every state had CTE-related activity this past year, with state legislatures and regulatory bodies approving roughly 190 policies across 46 states and the District of Columbia in 2014.

This continued spike in CTE-related policies indicates a growing awareness and interest in using CTE as a means to increase postsecondary credential attainment, provide students with real-world experience and prepare a workforce with the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain the nation's competitive edge.

Key Takeaways
For the second year in a row, funding has snagged the top spot, with 36 states providing additional funding for CTE in some form. Notable were California, which formalized a \$250 million investment in its Career Pathways Trust Grant, and South Dakota with its new \$50 million Build Dakota scholarship program for students entering high-need workforce programs. These investments reflect state leaders' recognition that students need to be both college and career ready and employers need a prepared and adaptable workforce.

Some other funding bumps came in the form of tax-incentivized donations (Alabama) and grants (Iowa) in an effort to increase business-education collaboration. In fact, public-private partnerships were more prominent in 2014 policies than in the prior year. Twenty-eight states passed legislation and approved policies designed to accelerate employer engagement with CTE to help align programs with labor market demands and offer work-based learning opportunities for students.

Consistent with last year, legislation and policy directed at earning postsecondary credit in high school and articulating credit across institutions was the third most common activity. This is not surprising given that education and training beyond high school is the new norm.¹ In 2014, this topic garnered attention from state legislative and regulatory bodies in 24 states. For example, the Nevada State Board of Education and Board of Regents approved a new policy to develop statewide articulation agreements for all CTE programs of study.

Continuing the trend of policies focused on business engagement and workforce preparation, industry-recognized credentials received a significant amount of attention. In 2014, 18 states approved measures or funds to accelerate credential attainment (Kansas and Tennessee), inform parents about the return on investment (ROI) for certain credentials (Florida), and establish grant programs that would provide training for critical industries like manufacturing (Illinois and Delaware). In Kansas, for example, the state's 2012 *Excel in CTE* legislation, which aimed to accelerate secondary students' credential attainment, stimulated so much interest that lawmakers had to appropriate an additional \$9.25 million to cover costs.

Policy Area <i>Note: A single bill or policy can address multiple policy areas</i>	Number of States Addressing Policy Area in 2014	States
Funding	36	AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, ID, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, NE, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, SD, TN, UT, VT, WA, WV, WI
Industry Partnerships/Work-based Learning	28	AL, AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, IA, LA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, RI, SD, TN, VT, WV, WI
Dual and Concurrent Enrollment/Early College/Articulation	24	AL, AK, CT, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MS, MO, NV, NJ, OH, OR, SD, TN, TX
Industry-recognized Credentials	19	AZ, CA, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, OH, RI, TN, UT, WV
Graduation Requirements	15	AZ, FL, IL, IN, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NY, OH, OK, SC, VA, WA
Data/Reporting/Accountability	15	CA, CO, CT, FL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, NJ, UT, VA
STEM*	10	AZ, DC, IA, NH, NY, OK, OR, UT, VT, WA
CTE Standards/Accreditation	10	CO, FL, ID, LA, MN, NJ, OK, TN, WA, WY
Technical/Employability Assessments	7	AZ, MS, MO, NV, NY, OH, SC
CTE Teacher Certification/Development	7	IL, ME, NJ, ND, RI, TN, VA
Career/Academic Counseling	6	AL, AR, CA, KY, OH, RI
Governance	5	AL, NM, OR, RI, UT

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• Funding

- *California*: \$250 million Career Pathways Trust grant
- *South Dakota*: \$50 million scholarship program for students entering high-need workforce programs
- *Alabama*: Scholarships for CTE dual enrollment with tax incentives for supporting businesses
- *Iowa*: \$5 million for the Kibbie Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant Program

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- **Industry Partnerships/Work-based Learning**
 - *Iowa*: funds for statewide network of intermediaries to increase work-based learning
 - *Trend across states*: Grant funding tied to business-education collaboration

- **Industry-recognized Credentials**
 - *Kansas*: funds to incentivize industry certifications
 - *Florida*: certification ROI provided to parents

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- **Requirements/CTE Pathways to Graduation**
 - *Missouri, Michigan and Washington:* CTE courses can substitute for academic courses toward graduation
 - *Louisiana:* development of a career diploma that is equal to a standard diploma
 - *New York:* state-approved CTE pathway
 - *Ohio:* graduation options include attaining industry-recognized credentials

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- **Dual/Concurrent Enrollment; Articulation**
 - *Alabama*: scholarships and tax credit for CTE dual enrollment
 - *Nevada*: statewide articulation agreements for all CTE programs of study

- **Data/Reporting/Accountability**
 - *Maine*: new state commission created to maintain, disseminate education, workforce data
 - *Other trends*: CTE added to school report card accountability; grant funding tied to performance outcomes

2014 Compared to 2013

2013 Policy Area <i>Note: A single bill or policy can address multiple policy areas</i>	Number of States in 2013	Number of States in 2014
Funding	31	36
Governance	14	5
Dual/Concurrent Enrollment	13	24
Graduation Requirements/ Competency-based Education	13	17
STEM	11	10
Data, Reporting and/or Accountability	9	15
Partnerships/Consortia	7	28 (industry partnerships/WBL)
Assessments/Industry Certifications	6	26
CTE Standards	6	10 (included accreditation this year)
CTE Teacher Quality/Certification	4	7
Career/Academic Counseling	3	6

2014 Compared to 2013

- Similar level of action related to:
 - Funding
 - CTE as fulfilling graduation requirements and/or serving as a pathway to graduation
 - Data, reporting and accountability
 - Dual enrollment
 - STEM
- An even greater focus on industry partnerships and certification
- Less attention paid to amending governance structures, creating task forces or clarifying regulation

Looking Ahead to 2015

- State of the State Addresses
 - As of January 26, 31 governors had given their State of the State address
 - CTE appeared in 40 percent of these speeches in some capacity
 - Highlights:
 - Indiana
 - Nevada
 - West Virginia
 - California*

What It Means to You

- Moving targets: Stay informed of policy changes and opportunities
- Opportunity for impact: Stay engaged as an advocate for high-quality CTE
- Leverage spotlight: Build a bigger tent of new partners

Discussion

Questions? Please Contact Us

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