UTAH CTE Fact Sheet 2018



Career and Technical Education in Utah

In Utah, Career and Technical Education provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value. Through competency-based instruction and hands-on technical skills training, students obtain the academic knowledge and certified occupational skills to be successful in postsecondary education, training, and the evolving workforce of the 21st century.

At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through 169 public middle/jr. high schools and 158 public high schools, including charter schools. At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through seven of the eight Utah System of Higher Education institutions and eight Utah System of Technical Colleges campuses, throughout the state's eight regions.

Utah received *\$12,684,480* in federal Perkins funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, \$183,479 more than in FY 2015. Of funds distributed to local recipients, 60 percent are allocated for secondary programs and 40 percent for postsecondary programs.

The Wasatch Front South Consortium's annual event, *Pathways to Professions*, is a wonderful way to connect industry partners to students and teachers. In 2017, 10,700 students attended and 129 businesses participated. Students (and teachers) can directly talk with businesses to learn more about career opportunities. Participants were very positive about this event and several students were hired on the spot! Our business partners were also excited to have the opportunity to reach out to so many students and teachers.

Based on the success of the Utah Aerospace Pathways, in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Economic Development, Canyons and Jordan School Districts are participating in the *Utah Diesel Technician Pathway* (UDTP). Students take concurrent enrollment courses in high school, which flow seamlessly into courses at Salt Lake Community College. Job shadowing and internships are offered as part of UDTP. Upon completion, students earn a certificate guaranteeing them a job interview with diesel industry partners. What a fantastic way to begin a rewarding career! UDTP is now expanding to other areas of the state.

In school year 2015-2016, Utah served **124,365** CTE high school students. In school year 2016-2017, there were **4,039,173** CTE membership hours taken in the Utah System of Technical Colleges and **11,240,576** CTE membership hours taken in the Utah System of Higher Education.

In direct response to industry need, the Governor's Office of Economic Development is also expanding pathways to include the *Medical Innovations Pathway* (MIP) and the *IT Pathways* programs. Students enrolled in the MIP program can choose to focus on medical device manufacturing or biotechnology, and they can gain entry-level employment upon completion of the high school program. The IT Pathways program was announced in October and plans are underway.

On the postsecondary level, the national magazine Washington Monthly has ranked Weber State University and Utah Valley University as the top two colleges in the nation as "Best Colleges for Adult Learners: 2 Year Colleges," and Salt Lake Community College in the list of "Twelve Most Innovative Colleges for Adult Learners." The rankings recognize institutions that have adapted to better serve adults who are 25 and older, which is about 40 percent of college enrollment on average around the country. Each institution on the list, the magazine points out, is "doing something right that other schools ought to emulate." Learn more at UtahCTE.org and https://schools.utah.gov/cte.

In school year 2015-2016:

- Utah high schools graduated **85** percent of their students. Utah's graduation rate increased by **2** percent from 2015 to 2016.
- 96,160 secondary students received CTE Skill Certificates.
- 73 percent of secondary students who concentrated in a CTE Pathway placed in postsecondary education, advanced training, military service or employment (October 1-December 31).

In school year 2016-2017:

• 5,503 CTE certificates and associate degrees were awarded by Utah System of Higher Education institutions.

Data from the Utah State Board of Education, the Utah System of Technical Colleges and the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education