Career and Technical Education in Colorado

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools, charter schools and technical centers.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE programs are offered through the Colorado Community College System, local district colleges and area technical colleges.
- Learn more at [http://coloradostateplan.com](http://coloradostateplan.com) or [CACTE.org](http://CACTE.org).

Exemplary CTE Programs in Colorado

- Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) students at Ponderosa High School in Douglas County School District, Parker, Colorado, create programs of study and earn college credit through concurrent enrollment. Culinary Nutrition and Catering courses focus on healthy and innovative food preparation techniques, with connections to families and careers. Culinary Nutrition provides students with a strong foundation in food safety, nutrition and culinary skills, including cooking methods such as air-frying and induction. Catering students elevate skills with preparation of food for the school store and other school events. Early Childhood Education and Teacher Cadet students observe children and interact with young students in classrooms, often teaching lessons. Hands-on activities are a key to success in all Ponderosa FCS courses. The award-winning program is led by Kimberly Baldwin, Colorado ACTE President-Elect. Baldwin is an ACTE Fellow and American Association of FCS National Merit Winner as Teacher of the Year 2017. ([Learn more at](https://www.dcsdk12.org/school/ponderosa-highschool/family-consumer-science)

- At Colorado’s Front Range Community College (FRCC) Larimer campus, students can earn stackable credentials in forestry and natural resources, including certificates in natural resources GIS, wildland fire and wildlife and fisheries management. Both the Associate of Applied Science degree in forestry, natural resources and wildlife and the Associate of General Studies degree prepare students to transfer to the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. Students gain field experience through such activities as timber cruising, soil studies, wildlife habitat management and fisheries research, and can also participate in sawyer training for forest management. In addition, students can take courses to qualify them for Red Card certification for fighting wildfires through FRCC’s collaboration with Larimer County Emergency Services. FRCC also hosts a high school program, in which students can earn up to nine credits and a forestry certificate. ([Information from “CTE: The Key to Economic Development in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources”](https://)

In school year 2017-2018:

- 89 percent of Colorado CTE high school students graduated
- 98 percent went on to postsecondary education, the workforce or the military
- 98 percent of Colorado CTE postsecondary students went on to the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship

Data from the Colorado Community College System and the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education