Career and Technical Education in Mississippi

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools and area career centers, which provide supplemental career training to students within a district.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the state’s community and junior colleges.

Exemplary CTE Programs in Mississippi

- Mississippi Power anticipates that about 15 percent of its 1,250 employees are nearing retirement. To that end, it worked with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC) to create and launch a program offering two-year associate and specialist degrees. Mississippi Power invested well over $1 million in equipment for the lab, which includes a simulated power generation plant. In addition, MGCCC has an apprenticeship program in conjunction with area shipyards, most notably Ingalls Shipbuilding. The college has worked with the Pascagoula shipbuilder since 1965. "For all these years we and Ingalls have trained apprentices in 10 different crafts," MGCCC spokeswoman Anna Faye Kelley-Winders said. "It's not unusual to have 250-300 apprentices annually." MGCCC reports that, as of 2012, it had served more than 16,500 students through individual training and partnerships with more than 65 companies throughout south Mississippi. Kelley-Winders said the school is ready to work with any new supplier or spin-off industry that might result in Mississippi. (Information from al.com)

- Ocean Springs High School programs enable students to acquire the skills and abilities necessary to achieve success in both academics and occupations. Areas of study at this school on the Gulf Coast include automotive service technology, construction trades, culinary arts, early childhood education, engineering and robotics, health sciences, marketing and a teacher academy. Huntington Ingalls Industries has awarded several small grants to the school, including a grant to equip three classrooms for hands-on learning with robotics. New equipment includes a commercial-style robot that will work in tandem with a milling machine, a mechanics lab that will be used to learn about pulleys and gears, an electronics lab that will be used for electrical experimentation and a pneumatics lab where students will use compressed air to simulate processing plant machinery. (Information from the Ocean Springs High School website and the Globe Newswire)

In school year 2016-2017:

- 95 percent of Mississippi CTE high school students graduated
- 75 percent met performance goals for technical skills
- 88 percent of Mississippi CTE postsecondary students earned a credential, certificate or degree
- 87 percent went on to the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship

Data from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education