Career and Technical Education in New Jersey

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools and county vocational-technical schools, which provide supplemental education and career training to high school students and adult learners.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the state’s community colleges.

Exemplary CTE Programs in New Jersey

- The agricultural science program at Allentown High School in Monmouth County prepares students for high-demand, high-wage careers and higher education related to agriculture, food and natural resources. Allentown’s agriscience program incorporates the Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE), a rigorous national curriculum that integrates, emphasizes and enhances academics, STEM and technical skills with a focus on project-based learning and intensive professional development for educators. In addition to CASE-certified courses in Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Principles of Agricultural Science–Animal; Principles of Agricultural Science–Plant; and Animal and Plant Biotechnology, Allentown students can also study agricultural mechanics; greenhouse, nursery and landscape management; veterinary and equine science; and aquaculture and wildlife science. Students gain hands-on experience by operating school greenhouses and, through strong business partnerships, pursue work-based learning opportunities at local nurseries, veterinary clinics and farms as well as in agribusiness/retail settings. Allentown has articulation agreements with Mercer County Community College and Rutgers University, and is working to expand articulation with other postsecondary institutions. The FFA chapter at Allentown is ranked in the top 10 percent of FFA chapters by the National FFA Organization. (Information from “CTE: The Key to Economic Development in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources”)

In school year 2016-2017:
- 96 percent of New Jersey CTE high school students graduated
- 82 percent met performance goals for technical skills
- 99 percent went on to postsecondary education, the workforce or the military
- 96 percent of New Jersey CTE postsecondary students met performance goals for technical skills

In school year 2016-2017, New Jersey served 74,139 CTE high school students, 108,393 CTE postsecondary students and 4,417 CTE adult students.

In Fiscal Year 2019, New Jersey received an estimated $25,422,049 in federal Perkins funding—$1.4 million more than in 2018 and down from $26.1 million in 2010, before Tech Prep was defunded.

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