Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Washington, DC

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive public high schools, public charter schools and stand-alone career academies specializing in career pathways such as STEM.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the University of the District of Columbia Community College.
- Adult education is provided through Opportunity Academies.

In school year 2017-2018, 2,818 high school students and 883 postsecondary students participated in CTE in Washington, DC.

In Fiscal Year 2020, the District of Columbia received an estimated $5,135,742 in federal Perkins funding—about $98,370 more than in Fiscal Year 2019.

CTE Highlights in Washington, DC

- **Ballou Opportunity Academy** is an alternative high school that provides District residents a chance to complete their high school education. With a diverse student body of more than 500, Ballou Opportunity Academy delivers academic and technical education leading to a high school diploma or CTE certificate. CTE programs include automotive technology, hospitality and tourism, entrepreneurship, mass media and culinary arts. The CTE program, along with sports and clubs, empowers young adults with the career skills to succeed in the real world.
- The **H.D. Woodson STEM High School Academies of Engineering and IT** are STEM initiatives to ensure students are college and career ready. While in school, students have opportunities to take dual enrollment courses, connect with mentors, and participate in job shadowing experiences and paid internships. Students must take at least one industry certification exam before graduation to show mastery of skill and have the opportunity to earn NAFNext Certification. A number of major employers give special consideration to job applicants with the NAFNext Certification.

**Student Performance (2018)**

- **95%** of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- **81%** of secondary CTE concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.
- **93%** of postsecondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills.

Data from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (Perkins IV)

**Labor Market Trends**

- **28%** of Washington, DC’s labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only **21%** of the District’s workers are trained at the middle-skill level.
- The **top 5** industries for “good jobs” that pay a median annual income of $55,000+ without a bachelor’s degree are office and administrative support, management, business and financial operations, computer and mathematical, and protective services.

Data from National Skills Coalition Middle-Skill Job Fact Sheets and the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce’s Good Jobs Project