Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Hawaii

- Hawai‘i is unique in that there is only one school district that covers all K-12 public schools and one postsecondary system that covers both community colleges and four-year colleges. Hawai‘i delivers CTE through comprehensive high schools and seven community colleges.

In school year 2017-2018, 26,229 high school students and 8,303 postsecondary students participated in CTE in Hawaii.

In Fiscal Year 2020, Hawaii received an estimated $6,247,167 in federal Perkins funding—about $98,370 more than in Fiscal Year 2019.

CTE Highlights in Hawaii

- Hawai‘i has implemented a robust dual credit program that serves all students, including those in CTE programs. The various initiatives have increased the number of students who enroll in college, increased the percentage of economically disadvantaged students who enroll and persist in college, narrowed the gap for economically disadvantaged graduates, and doubled the number of graduates with college credit since 2011.
- To meet more than 1,500 new jobs in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning sector in the state, with a projected job growth rate of 16.2% on Maui, UH Maui College and Maui’s HVAC industry developed an HVAC Technician Pilot Program to accelerate training for students interested in this career path. With HVAC mechanics and installers earning an average salary of $60,880, the program provides Maui residents with a structured career pathway that pays a living wage while addressing worker shortages for local employers.
- The 2019 culinary team from Kapiolani Community College, known as Team Hawai‘i, earned a silver medal at the “Cook, Craft, Create” American Culinary Federation National Convention and Show. Each team prepared a four-course menu, with 110 minutes to prep, cook, plate and serve all dishes to the judges. They were judged on presentation, flavor, nutritional value, cooking technique, teamwork, sanitation and timing.
- For the past 17 years, Leeward Community College’s Culinary Arts program has played an important role in the Ko Olina’s Thanksgiving Outreach Program. The instructors, staff and students are part of a growing number of volunteers that pitch in to prepare and distribute 4,000 Thanksgiving dinners to deserving families from Pearl City to Wai‘anae.

Student Performance (2018)

- **99 percent** of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- **100 percent** of secondary concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.
- Graduates who completed a CTE program of study had higher college enrollment rates compared to the statewide average (**61 percent** v. 55 percent), and were more likely to still be enrolled at the University of Hawai‘i at the end of their second year compared to non-CTE graduates (**78 percent** v. 62 percent).
- **94 percent** of postsecondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills.

Labor Market Trends

- **49 percent** of Hawa‘i’s labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only **47 percent** of the state’s workers are trained at the middle-skill level.
- The **top 5** industries for “good jobs” that pay a median income of $55,000+ without a bachelor’s degree are office and administrative support; construction and extraction; management; sales; and installation, maintenance and repair.

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

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