Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Maine

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through 27 Area CTE Regions or Centers, which provide supplemental academic and career training to students from local school districts; a science and math magnet school; and a science and technology charter school.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered by Maine’s seven community colleges as well as the state’s Maritime Academy.

In school year 2017-2018, 8,127 high school students and 8,496 postsecondary students participated in CTE in Maine.

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

CTE Highlights in Maine

- The Maine CTE Directors met in August 2019 with the intention of supporting grade 9 and 10 CTE involvement. Maine CTE schools have increased CTE enrollment of 9th and 10th grade students from 706 in the 2018-2019 year to 1,202 students in the 2019-2020 school year. The heightened awareness and activities aligned to increasing grade 9 and 10 CTE enrollment will result in overall increases in CTE enrollment for years to come.
- Through 2017 legislation, Maine is expanding CTE opportunities by requiring schools to provide access to developmentally-appropriate CTE for middle school students in grades 6-8. Maine CTE Centers are presently involved with 162 middle schools in Maine. Within this cohort, 12,595 middle school students have participated in CTE middle school programs designed to expose students to and inform them about the benefits of CTE education. The Maine Department of Education is in the process of developing Middle School CTE standards, in collaboration with the field.

Student Performance (2018)

- 92% of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- 94% of postsecondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills.
- 96% of postsecondary concentrators went on to the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.

Labor Market Trends

- 52% of Maine’s labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only 47% 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 management, office and administrative support, sales, production, and construction and extraction.

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

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