

Career and Technical Education (CTE) in North Carolina

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools; CTE-focused high schools, which teach core academic subjects in the context of specific career training; career academies and STEM education and thematic schools, which teach academics and technical subjects around a career focus; and early/middle college schools, which allow students to simultaneously earn a high school diploma and an associate's degree or up to two years of credit toward a bachelor's degree.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the state's community colleges.
- Learn more at www.dpi.state.nc.us/cte and www.acteonline.org/northcarolina.

In school year 2017-2018, **931,801** high school students and **92,361** postsecondary students participated in CTE in North Carolina.

In Fiscal Year 2020, North Carolina received an estimated **\$43,398,349** in federal Perkins funding—about \$706,333 more than in Fiscal Year 2019.

CTE Highlights in North Carolina

- **New Career Pathways Model for CTE in North Carolina:** NC CTE, as part of leveraging the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), is introducing a revised Career Pathways model. The new model will outline a clear and organized view of course and pathway offerings for parents and student to use while making important career decisions. The model incorporates the new NC Career Pathway Sectors (formerly called program areas). In addition to required pathway courses, the model also includes Middle Grades Exploration options, Supplemental Employability Skills options and Supplemental Technical options. In the future, the document will be available online and will reflect connections to postsecondary education options.
- **Credentials Selected as Program Quality Measure for CTE in North Carolina:** In collaboration with stakeholders, NC CTE has selected recognized postsecondary credentials as its new Perkins V Program Quality Measure. This will be an exciting opportunity for students to demonstrate mastery of course content in an authentic measurement, rather than a traditional 100-item multiple choice assessment. As such, NC CTE will also be revising the Credentials by Course approval process to align approved credentials to those of value to the student and the workforce. In keeping with this vision for authentic assessment, NC CTE is also introducing Proofs of Learning for several new courses, which will be designed to highlight a student's performance and skill attainment in a course.

Student Performance (2018)

- **99%** of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- **78%** of secondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills.
- **94%** of secondary CTE concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.
- **81%** 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

- **55%** of North Carolina's labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only **44%** 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, production, sales, and healthcare practitioners/technical occupations.

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