Career and Technical Education (CTE) in South Carolina

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools; career and technical centers that provide supplemental CTE programs to students within most of the larger school districts; and independent, multidistrict career centers that provide CTE programs to students from districts that do not have their own career centers. In addition, the state has four institutions operating as special school districts and providing secondary CTE programs; a school for students with disabilities; two state correctional agencies, one for juveniles and one for adults; and one school devoted to agriculture.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the state’s 16 technical colleges.

CTE Highlights in South Carolina

- The Continuum is a regional center in Florence County for education and training in innovative and technical skills and workforce development, created through collaboration between the Darla Moore Foundation, the South Carolina Department of Education, five surrounding school districts, Florence-Darlington Technical College and Francis Marion University. The Continuum is focused on equity and access to remove barriers for success. The collaboration provides opportunities for students of all ages through training and certifications in workforce development skills, courses that lead to two- and four-year degrees, dual-credit courses for high school students, programs for K-12 students in science and innovation, and a business incubator space. Through its unique structure and flexibility, The Continuum opens new doors for students across the spectrum.

Student Performance (2018)

- 98% of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- 93% of secondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills and 90% met performance goals for math skills.
- 98% of secondary CTE concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.
- 93% of postsecondary CTE students 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

- 57% of South Carolina’s labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only 46% 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 production, management, office and administrative support, sales, and installation/maintenance/repair.

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