Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Wisconsin

- At the secondary level, CTE is delivered through comprehensive high schools; career academies, which are schools-within-schools that provide smaller, cohesive personalized learning environments that integrate curriculum and instructional activities around specific career areas; and CTE-specific high schools, which fully integrate core academic subjects with career-specific instruction.
- At the postsecondary level, CTE is delivered through the state's technical college system, where they are transforming the traditional concept of higher education through the use of Career Pathways. Partners in this work include the tribally controlled community colleges as well as the University of Wisconsin–Stout, through preparing CTE educators and providing continuing professional development.
- Learn more at https://dpi.wi.gov/cte.

In school year 2017-2018, 88,636 high school students and 123,076 postsecondary students participated in CTE in Wisconsin.

CTE Highlights in Wisconsin

- Wisconsin’s CTE Incentive Grants encourages school districts to provide high-quality CTE for in-demand industries and occupations. The grants reimburse up to $1,000 for each student in a school district who earns an approved industry-recognized certification.
- Local Youth Apprenticeship (YA) Grants support partnerships with employers, school districts, technical college, labor and other training providers to engage high school students in youth apprenticeships. Students who complete the YA program receive a high school diploma, a state Certificate of Occupational Proficiency and credits toward an associate degree. All programs incorporate employability skills into classroom instruction, which are reinforced by supervisors and mentors on the job site.
- The CESA 3 Auto Tech Academy is a partnership among the Wisconsin Auto and Truck Dealers Association, area dealerships, the region’s technical school, CESA 3 and local districts to address the need for auto technicians in the region. This academy develops pathway for students to build auto tech skills at service dealerships near their homes.

Student Performance (2018)

- 98 percent of secondary CTE concentrators graduated.
- 91 percent of secondary CTE concentrators met performance goals for technical skills.
- 95 percent of secondary CTE concentrators went on to postsecondary education, the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.
- 94 percent of postsecondary CTE concentrators went on to the workforce, the military or an apprenticeship.

Labor Market Trends

- 55 percent of Wisconsin’s labor market consists of middle-skill jobs, but only 48 percent of the state’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 production, management, office and administrative support, construction and extraction, and transportation and material moving.

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