

# CTE in Colorado



The Colorado economy is experiencing a skills gap...

**49%** of jobs in Colorado require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

**39%** of Colorado workers are trained at this level.

Career and technical education (CTE) programs can fill these gaps, particularly in Colorado's key industries, like:

- advanced manufacturing
- food and agriculture
- health and wellness
- transportation and logistics



35,740 Colorado middle school students enrolled in CTE programs in 2018-19.

Many students are already enrolled in CTE in Colorado, developing technical, academic and employability skills and engaging in work-based experiences with industry partners. During the 2019-20 school year, Colorado had:

**74,776**

secondary CTE participants

**85,901**

postsecondary CTE participants

These youth and adult learners in CTE programs are more engaged, graduate high school at higher rates, earn industry-recognized credentials, and have rewarding and family-sustaining careers.



Four-year cohort graduation rate in Colorado (2017-18)

**28,563**

postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Colorado (2019-20)



More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Colorado to ensure that all learners, including historically underserved learners, have access to high-quality CTE programs in high-skill, high-wage and in-demand career fields.

**CTE: Good for Students, Good for Business, Good for Communities!**

**FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Colorado**

**\$19,975,087**