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

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.

89.4% CTE Concentrators
81% All Students

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

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!

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

28,563 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Colorado (2019-20)

FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Colorado
$19,975,087

For more information visit www.actonline.org, ColoradoStatePlan.com and CACTE.org.
Data sources are available from publicpolicy@actonline.org.