The Alabama economy is experiencing a skills gap... 58% of jobs in Alabama require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree. 47% of Alabama workers are trained at this level.

Career and technical education (CTE) programs can fill these gaps, particularly in Alabama’s key industries, like:
- aerospace and aviation
- agricultural products and food production
- automotive
- metal and advanced materials

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

158,763 secondary CTE participants
48,357 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.

90% CTE Concentrators
90% All Students

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

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Alabama 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!

Alabama high school CTE students complete a Senior Career Pathway Project in which students are paired with a mentor to complete research, a portfolio and a presentation.

18,535 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Alabama (2019-20)

FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Alabama
$22,550,695

Data sources are available from publicpolicy@acteonline.org.