

CTE in Arkansas



The Arkansas economy is experiencing a skills gap...

57% of jobs in Arkansas require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

48% of Arkansas workers are trained at this level.



High school students in Arkansas with more exposure to CTE are more likely to graduate from high school, enroll in a two-year college, be employed and earn higher wages.

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

- food and beverage
- metals
- distribution and logistics
- transportation equipment

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

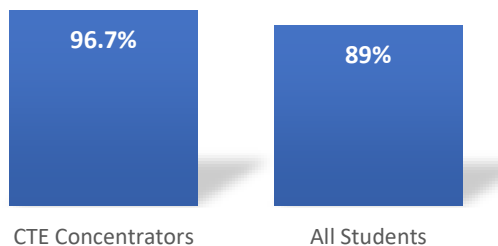
116,305

secondary CTE participants

19,081

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 Arkansas (2017-18)

17,339

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



More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Arkansas 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 Arkansas

\$13,786,625