The District of Columbia’s economy is experiencing a skills gap...

27% of jobs in the District require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

21% of District workers are trained at this level.

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

- real estate and construction
- health care and life sciences
- technology
- professional services

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

3,052 secondary CTE participants

1,284 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.

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across the District of Columbia 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!

DC’s 12 College & Career Academies provide high school students with industry-aligned curriculum and work-based learning opportunities.

FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Washington, DC

$5,392,734