The Missouri economy is experiencing a skills gap... of jobs in Missouri require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree. 53% of Missouri workers are trained at this level.

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

- advanced manufacturing
- health sciences and services
- information technology
- automotive suppliers

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

124,606 secondary CTE participants
53,375 postsecondary/adult 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 Missouri 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!

In Missouri, most high school and postsecondary CTE students who graduated in 2020-21 are working in careers related to their CTE programs of study.

14,958 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Missouri (2019-20)

FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Missouri
$26,273,960

For more information visit [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org), [dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/career-education](http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/career-education) and [www.acteonline.org/Missouri](http://www.acteonline.org/Missouri). Data sources are available from publicpolicy@acteonline.org.