Region III ACTE

ILLINOIS | INDIANA | IOWA
MINNESOTA | MISSOURI | WISCONSIN

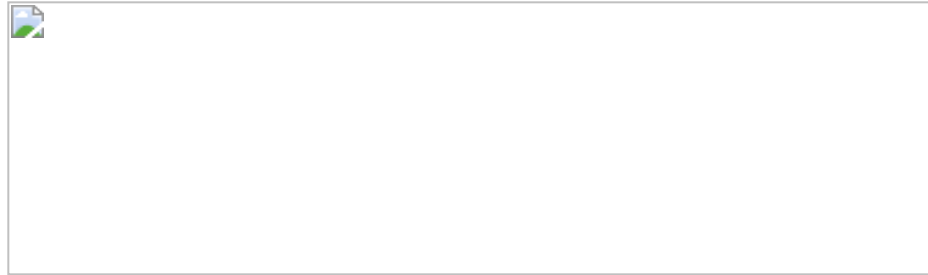Connecting Education and Careers

Dear Region III members,

What a wonderful summer I had traveling for ACTE and our region! It started with a great trip north to Prior Lake Minnesota for our Region III Conference. Minnesota's Region III Policy committee member and conference chair, Robb Lowe, and his team did an amazing job planning our event and even did double duty by beginning the planning the year before! Kudos to Minnesota as well as all of the wonderful nominees who were celebrated at our awards luncheon on that Friday! We have such talented and passionate career and technical education (CTE) professionals in our region, and I can't wait to celebrate and cheer our winners on at the VISION Awards Gala this year.

Following my trip to Minnesota, I was fortunate to be able to head to Alexandria to ACTE headquarters for our July Board meeting. While we weren't all able to be there in person, it is always great to get to know our newest board members, and it was even more special when one of our Region members, Scott Stone of Missouri, was sworn in as president-elect. We can be proud of the national leadership we have had and continue to have from our region. If you have never considered being involved, I encourage you to check with your state leadership as well as look into a national Fellowship or Mentorship opportunities (see the messages below). You won't be disappointed!

I wrapped up my summer conference travels with a trip to Springfield, Missouri, to help out with their state conference registration and fit in a few days to visit with an aunt who lives nearby. If you have never been to another state conference, this just might be one to check out. They had close to 900 registrations, and all divisions meet in conjunction with their state conference.
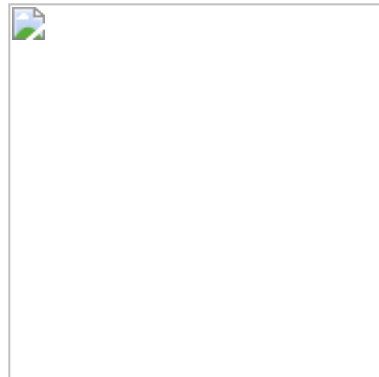
Illinois ended their summer hosting a virtual new CTE Teacher Academy. What a great way to help mentor those new to the profession! Indiana and Iowa will each be holding their state conferences the end of September.

While I am on the subject of state conferences, I wanted to be sure to highlight the Virtual Wisconsin Career and Tech Ed Conference that will be held **Oct. 21**. Session proposals are due **Sept. 3**. You can get more information here.

Our BIGGEST region news is that we are launching our TEACH CTE campaign! We encourage you all to start using the graphics found linked here and on our Region III website. We will be rolling out a PSA contest the month of September – STAY TUNED to "INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY" and help "Be a part of that investment!"

Please check out other great ways you can be involved and find ACTE-sponsored professional development in the following posts:

Early Bird Rates Extended to Aug. 31

The most important event for career and technical educators, ACTE's CareerTech VISION will provide unparalleled networking, inspiring keynote speakers, hundreds of concurrent program sessions covering multiple CTE sectors and timely equity and access topics and innovations in CTE, an in-person Expo, and more. This year's event happens in New Orleans, Louisiana, **Dec. 1–4** and in-person rates include access to both in-person and virtual programming.
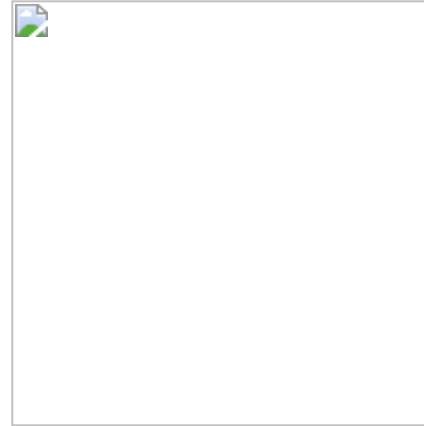
Please note, the early bird rates have been extended to **Aug. 31**, so there's still time to secure the most affordable way to attend VISION! Not able to attend in-person? Join us virtually for a dynamic and specially curated content.

High-Quality CTE During COVID-19

Secondary schools and colleges are preparing to open their doors for the fall semester while navigating shifting guidelines for COVID-19. Refresh your plans and strategies for this school year with ACTE's COVID-19 resources:

- *High-Quality CTE: Planning for a COVID-19-impacted School Year*: This guide, published in summer 2020, helps CTE stakeholders identify the key considerations, guiding questions and emerging best practices for delivering CTE during COVID-19 across all the elements of high-quality CTE. It was accompanied by a webinar series sharing ideas from the field.
- *High-quality CTE During COVID-19: Challenges and Innovations*: This report, published in March 2021, describes challenges for delivering CTE during COVID-19, shares examples of innovative practices, and provides recommendations for how CTE leaders can better prepare the post-COVID-19 workforce and embrace lessons learned during the pandemic.
- *High-quality CTE During COVID-19: Leveraging Federal Relief Funds at the Local Level*: Published in May 2021, this paper provides an overview of federal relief funds
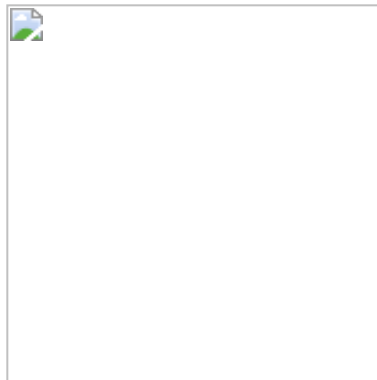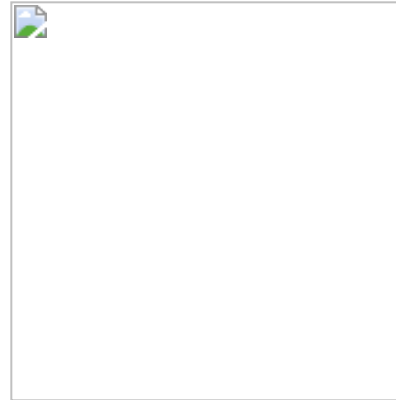
and suggests how CTE programs can benefit from these critical resources.

- CTE Distance Learning Lesson Plans: These publications from the California Department of Education's Career and College Transition Division, CTEOnline.org, the San Diego County Office of Education's Office of College and Career Readiness, and ACTE highlight lesson plans, webinars and resources for remote learning across multiple sectors.

Event Especially for CTE Leaders

Don't miss the gathering of CTE leaders at ACTE's and NCLA's Best Practices and Innovations in CTE Conference, taking place **Sept. 29–Oct. 1** in Austin, Texas. This year's event features an information-packed agenda of 28 sessions and 16 roundtables along with distinguished keynote speakers Rachael Mann, Joyce Malyn-Smith and Michael Bettersworth.

Learn more and register

Upcoming Webinars

Mark your calendar for these upcoming free webinars, covering innovative best practices and inclusion, access, equity and diversity in CTE.
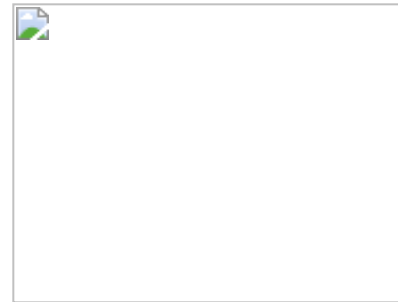
- Designing a College and Career Pathways System, sponsored by NC3T, on **Aug. 27 at 11:00 a.m. ET**

- Teaching Innovative CTE: Bringing Industry into Your Classroom with Real-world Projects & Skills on **Sept. 1 at noon ET**
- Making CTE Classrooms More Inclusive for LGBTQ+ Students on **Sept. 8 at 3:00 p.m. ET**
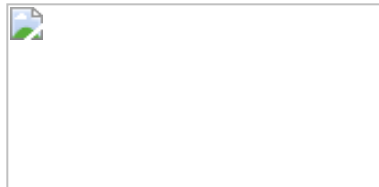- Part 2: Confronting Isms in the Classroom on **Oct. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

Learn more

ACTE Seeking IAED Mentors & Mentees

ACTE's mentorship program, offering professional development opportunities to help cultivate more diverse and inclusive work environments for career and technical educators, seeks to support association members interested in inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED) — those who are interested in becoming a mentor in ACTE's IAED Mentorship Program should apply by **Aug. 31**, or a mentee by **Sept. 30**. The IAED Mentorship Program is generously sponsored by IMAGO.

Learn more

New CTE Learn Courses

Be sure to check out the following latest additions to the growing collection of 170+ CTE Learn courses at www.ctelearn.org:

- [Creating Work-Based Learning Programs](#)
- [HQ101— CTE High-quality Framework: Standards-aligned and Integrated Curriculum](#)
- [Integrating Career Readiness Into Your Courses: Part II](#)
- [Introduction to Positive Psychology for Educators](#)
- [Leveraging Community Resources to Energize CTE Programs](#)

Learn more

ACTE Fellowship Applications Due Sept. 15

Applications for ACTE's premier leadership development program are open! The Fellowship Program is a one-year commitment from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

ACTE offers two cohorts for the National Leadership Fellowship Program:

- **Experienced Fellows** include members with more than 5 years CTE experience.
- **New Professionals Fellows** target members with 2–5 years CTE experience.

Both experienced and new fellow cohorts provide participants with the leadership, professional and policy skills they need to grow as a CTE and ACTE advocate! In addition, Fellows receive a $1,000 stipend, complimentary registration to CareerTech VISION and National Policy Seminar, and invaluable connections to other Fellows and ACTE leaders!

Limited spots are available for the 2022 Fellows class — interested members apply via the ACTE Awards Portal Here

Learn more

I look forward to seeing you at VISION!

Lisa Stange
ACTE Region III VP

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