The Washington economy is experiencing a skills gap...

49% of jobs in Washington require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree. 38% of Washington workers are trained at this level.

Career and technical education (CTE) programs can fill these gaps, particularly in Washington's key industries, like:
- aerospace
- agriculture and food manufacturing
- clean technology
- maritime

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

180,211 secondary CTE participants

110,737 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 Washington 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!

The 10-year economic impact of professional-technical education at Washington’s community and technical college is $15.2 billion.

FY 21 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Washington

$24,203,112