The South Dakota economy is experiencing a skills gap...  

54% of jobs in South Dakota require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

47% of South Dakota workers are trained at this level.

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

- manufacturing
- livestock development
- precision agriculture
- cybersecurity

Many students are already enrolled in CTE in South Dakota, developing technical, academic and employability skills and engaging in work-based experiences with industry partners. During the 2020-21 school year, South Dakota had:

- **23,764** secondary CTE participants
- **6,553** 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.

Nearly 1,900 South Dakota high school CTE concentrators who graduated in 2021 had participated in an internship, apprenticeship or other CTE Capstone experience.

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across South Dakota 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!**

For more information visit www.actonline.org, doe.sd.gov/cte and sdacteonline.org. Data sources are available from publicpolicy@actonline.org.