The Iowa economy is experiencing a skills gap...

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

49% of Iowa workers are trained at this level.

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

- advanced manufacturing
- transportation
- buildings and sites
- renewable energy

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

113,975 secondary CTE participants
7,972 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.

CTE Concentrators
96.2%
All Students
90.2%

Four-year cohort graduation rate in Iowa (2020-21)

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Iowa 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!

18,233 Iowa high school students took at least one college-credit CTE course in academic year 2021.

12,324 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Iowa (2020-21)

FY 23 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Iowa
$14,435,589