The Mississippi economy is experiencing a skills gap...  
57% of jobs in Mississippi require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.  
50% of Mississippi workers are trained at this level.

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

- advanced manufacturing
- agriculture, food and beverage
- distribution and logistics
- forestry, energy and chemicals

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secondary CTE Participants</th>
<th>Postsecondary CTE Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26,270</td>
<td>23,062</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

In 2021, 93% of Mississippi postsecondary CTE concentrators were employed, pursued further education, or joined the military or Peace Corps immediately after program completion.

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Mississippi 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.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org), [www.mdek12.org/CTE](http://www.mdek12.org/CTE) and [MississippiACTE.com](http://MississippiACTE.com).  
Data sources are available from publicpolicy@acteonline.org.