CTE in Tennessee

The Tennessee economy is experiencing a skills gap...

56% of jobs in Tennessee require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

49% of Tennessee workers are trained at this level.

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

• electric vehicle manufacturing
• health care and life sciences
• appliances and electrical
• distribution and logistics

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

172,730 secondary CTE participants
40,848 postsecondary/adult 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
96.7%

All Students
89.3%

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

21,116 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Tennessee (2020-21)

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Tennessee 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!

FY 23 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Tennessee

$30,614,176