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 2021-22 school year, Mississippi had: 

25,624 secondary CTE participants 
21,957 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. 

15,663 postsecondary credentials earned by CTE students in Mississippi (2021-22) 

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.actonline.org, www.mdek12.org/CTE and MississippiACTE.com. Data sources are available from publicpolicy@actonline.org.