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 2021-22 school year, Tennessee had:

- **184,285** secondary CTE participants
- **36,285** 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.

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.

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In 2022, more than 9,700 Tennessee high school CTE concentrators graduated having participated in a work-based learning course.

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CTE: Good for Students, Good for Business, Good for Communities!

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**FY 23 Federal Perkins CTE Funding for Tennessee**

$30,614,176

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