

CTE: DEVELOPING THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKFORCE

Career and technical education (CTE) supports America's education and training needs by

preparing learners to enter this critical workforce, which employs more than **8 million**¹ people nationwide supporting preschool through adult learners within public education and through private providers.

CTE programs in education and training develop students' technical, academic and employability skills through work-based and hands-on learning, ensuring they are prepared to enter a **high-wage, in-demand** career in areas such as teaching and training, administration and administrative support, and professional support.

This infographic describes a small sample of the career opportunities available in the education and training workforce.

TEACHING AND TRAINING

- Schools are facing teacher **shortages**² in fields such as special education, foreign languages and CTE.
- Secondary CTE teachers earn a median annual wage of **\$63,000**³, up to more than **\$100,000**.
- Job openings for college and university instructors are growing **faster than average**⁴, while more than **56,000**⁵ openings for preschool teachers are projected annually through 2032.
- State licenses, postsecondary certificates and degrees, industry certifications and apprenticeships can help individuals **get started** in teaching and training.



ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- Over **900,000**⁶ people are employed as administrators across public and private care centers, education institutions and training providers.
- Elementary, middle and high school principals earn more than **\$100,000**⁷ annually.
- Jobs for managers of corporate training programs are growing **faster than average**⁸, while more than **19,000**⁹ openings for curriculum and instructional developers are projected each year through 2032.
- Postsecondary certificates and degrees, state licenses and industry certifications can help individuals **develop careers** in education administration.



PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

- School social workers, school counselors, speech-language pathologists and more provide **important support services** to students.
- School counselors and career advisors make an annual median wage of approximately **\$61,000**¹⁰ up to **\$100,000** for the highest earners.
- Jobs for speech-language pathologists, who earn almost **\$90,000**¹¹ annually, are growing **much faster than average**.
- Postsecondary certificates and degrees, industry credentials and licenses can help people build **fulfilling careers** in this sub-sector.



MORE JOBS IN THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKFORCE

In addition to the careers already profiled, CTE prepares youth and adults for these further occupations in the education and training workforce:

- **assessment specialist**
- **parent liaison**
- **college dean**
- **school psychologist**
- **superintendent**
- **career development facilitator**
- **middle school teacher**
- **human resources trainer**
- **instructional media designer**
- **coach**

Students at Wade Hampton High School in Greenville, South Carolina, can take part in the Future Teacher Academy, which begins in the 10th grade with project-based learning, speakers and field trips. In 11th and 12th grades, learners take a dual-credit course through Clemson University and have the opportunity to complete a 60-hour field practicum and an additional college course.

HOW CTE PREPARES THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKFORCE

CTE programs of study and career pathways prepare secondary, postsecondary and adult learners for the education and training workforce in many ways:

- **Courses** in educational methodology, instructional technology, human growth and development and more spanning secondary and postsecondary education.
- Opportunities to earn **postsecondary certificates and degrees** in elementary and secondary education, counseling, teaching English to speakers of other languages, special education, educational leadership and more.
- Opportunities to earn state licenses as well as **industry credentials** from the National Career Development Association, American School Counselor Association, Council for Professional Recognition and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, among others.
- **Work-based learning** experiences like job shadowing, internships and apprenticeships.
- Competitive events, service learning and leadership development through **career and technical student organizations** such as Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and SkillsUSA as well as the student group Educators Rising.
- **Activities** that build technical, academic and employability skills such as teamwork, communication and problem solving.

Learn More

This Sector Sheet highlights just a few occupations within the education and training workforce. To learn more, please visit the U.S. Department of Labor at www.CareerOneStop.org/ExploreCareers and MyNextMove.org.

Citations

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- ⁷U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024, April). *Occupational outlook handbook: Elementary, middle and high school principals*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/elementary-middle-and-high-school-principals.htm>
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- ¹¹U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024, April). *Occupational outlook handbook: Speech-language pathologists*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/speech-language-pathologists.htm>