

CTE WORKS!

Career and technical education (CTE) engages students and prepares them with the skills they need for fulfilling careers in vital, in-demand industries and occupations.

CTE is associated with higher levels of student engagement¹ and academic achievement.² In fact, the **average high school graduation rate for CTE concentrators**—students who take multiple courses in one CTE program area—is **97%**,³ much higher than the national rate.⁴

CTE WORKS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

CTE students are **more likely to attend two-year colleges and just as likely to attend four-year colleges** as their peers.⁵



High school CTE concentrators are **more likely** than non-concentrators **to be employed full time and have higher median annual earnings** 8 years after graduation.⁶



Internships, technical colleges and CTE courses are among the best options for learners to **gain skills for career success**, according to hiring managers.⁷

CTE WORKS FOR THE NATION

The United States is facing a **projected deficit of 6 million skilled workers by 2032**.¹¹ CTE can prepare students to enter key industries facing talent shortages, including:

- Health care
- Construction
- Utilities
- Durable manufacturing

93% of U.S. employers recruiting from CTE programs find those programs **beneficial to their bottom line**.¹²

CTE WORKS FOR POSTSECONDARY AND ADULT STUDENTS

An increasing number of postings ask job seekers for short-term credentials: **about 1/3 of postings in 2022**.⁸

Undergraduate certificates and associate and bachelor's degrees in CTE fields like health care, business, skilled trades and STEM **lead to higher earnings** for early and mid-career workers.^{9 10}



CTE generates **billions of dollars** for state economies and local businesses.¹³

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Citations

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