



WHAT IS CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION?

By law, every Ohio high school student has the opportunity to enroll in career-technical education programs.

This means that in addition to the standard academic requirements, students take specific classes in their chosen field. This specialized education is delivered through career centers or in local high schools. Many career-technical centers also offer adult workforce education through Ohio Technical Centers, which fall under the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

CTE FAST FACTS**

117,105

High School CTE Students

73,728

Middle Grade CTE Students

30,747

CTE Adult Students Earning a Credential, License or Technical Assessment

1,980

Number of Programs Available

Expanding Career-Technical Education Opportunities

- ◆ As Ohio's economy continues to recover, career-technical education can prepare students for highly technical jobs that require specialized skill and training. Career-technical education prepares Ohio high school and adult students for many high-skilled, increasingly technical jobs that are going unfilled. CTE programs in the middle grades help expose students at an early age to opportunities that they might not otherwise know about.
- ◆ Ohio's career-technical educators are ready and willing to be a part of expanding career-tech to reach many more students. Career-tech education is delivered through programs that best meet the needs of students and business and industry.

It's About Ohio Jobs

An Ohio Competitive Advantage

- ◆ Ohio is one of the few states in the nation with a comprehensive career-technical education system. Our CTE system was established in the 1940s with "vocational" facilities across the state to prepare and educate the workforce. Today, Ohio's modern "CTE" system is highly advanced, with a 21st Century curriculum enabling high school and adult students to obtain highly technical and specialized skills. There are 54 Ohio Technical Centers (Adult Career Center) integrated within Ohio's 91 Career and Technical Education Planning Districts (CTPD). CTE programs are available to 100% of Ohio's public high school students.
- ◆ Career technical education is in tune with local economic and student needs. Though CTE is part of public education, it is a *program of choice* for high school students and their parents.
- ◆ Because CTE relies on voluntary student enrollments and the ability to place students into high-demand occupations, CTE is responsive to the needs of *business and industry partners*, who often help design classes and provide instructors.
- ◆ CTE provides multiple education pathways that emphasize high quality career and college readiness.

A Smart Investment

- ◆ CTE offers high school programs that meet the needs of the local economy. High school students enter the job market with credentials making good wages and prepared to be successful in college.
- ◆ Adult education programs range from two-week certificate classes to longer term credentialing programs, as well as customized training for business and industry.

Career Technical Education Delivers

- ◆ 98% of Ohio high school CTE students graduate.*
- ◆ 60% of all Ohio high school CTE students enroll in postsecondary education and 50+% are employed within nine months of graduation.*
- ◆ CTE is a model for shared services by reducing costs to school districts by offering quality career-technical programs to high school and adult students at centralized locations.



BUILDING OHIO'S WORKFORCE

Career-Technical Education

2018 Policy Recommendations

In order to continue to provide quality programming that impacts Ohio's workforce, career-technical educators emphasize the following policy priorities:

- 1. Teacher Licensure for Career-Tech "Route-B" Instructors:** The Career-Technical Education (CTE) community seeks to ensure Ohio has in place an accessible career-tech teacher education system that includes effective preparation and adequate pedagogical instruction. CTE instructors teaching under an alternative resident educator license come from other professions and bring expert content knowledge to the position, but need the instructional pedagogy and other related educational content to thrive in the classroom. We continue to collaborate with ODE, ODHE, higher education and business leaders to make certain our educators are adequately prepared to lead students to successful careers through quality workforce instruction.
- 2. CTE Accountability / Applicable Data:** CTE superintendents, teachers and administrators seek to enhance the state's CTE accountability system to ensure it accurately measures student progress and achievement, and correctly identifies areas for improvement. The state has recognized that its evaluation and assessment of career-tech students is unique and in many respects different than that of traditional students. As such, lawmakers created a separate and distinct CTE report card. The state should maintain the credibility of its career-tech report card system by establishing consistent, relevant, practical, and "CTE-centered" assessment metrics for our schools and students, all while ensuring accurate data. We look forward to working with ODE and the General Assembly collaboratively to improve Ohio's accountability framework for career-technical education institutions.
- 3. Ohio Technical Centers / Institutions of Higher Education:** Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs) provide much needed education and training to adult students who are beginning or changing careers, seeking to increase skills/marketability for new and in-demand occupations, or have simply been displaced from jobs that no longer exist. OTCs are also an important player in helping the state reach its "Go Higher" post-secondary attainment goals. Given this significant role in Ohio's statewide educational platform, OTCs should be recognized as "institutions of higher education" under Ohio law. This designation will remove barriers for collaboration among OTCs, community colleges, and ODHE, and will allow OTCs to access funding and other programs not currently available. A renewed emphasis on Ohio's technical centers will also help increase student enrollment in certificate/credentialing programs, which can encourage some adults to continue their education at a community college, two or four year college.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PREPARES STUDENTS FOR WORK OR COLLEGE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- ◆ Agriculture & Environmental Systems
- ◆ Arts & Communication
- ◆ Business & Administrative Services
- ◆ Construction Technologies
- ◆ Education & Training
- ◆ Engineering & Science Technologies
- ◆ Finance
- ◆ Health Science
- ◆ Hospitality & Tourism
- ◆ Human Services
- ◆ Information Technology
- ◆ Law & Public Safety
- ◆ Manufacturing Technologies
- ◆ Marketing
- ◆ Transportation Systems

For More Information Contact:

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*Source: Ohio Department of Education, Office of Career-Technical Education, Ohio Career-Technical Education FY2014 Fact Sheet

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