



BUILDING OHIO'S WORKFORCE

Career-Technical Education

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 planning districts also offer adult workforce education through Ohio Technical Centers, which fall under the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

CTE FAST FACTS**

117,585

High School CTE Students

73,991

Middle Grade CTE Students

28,511

CTE Adult Students Earning a
Credential, License or Technical
Assessment

1,680

Number of Programs Available

Expanding Career-Technical Education Opportunities

- ◆ As Ohio's economy continues to improve, career-technical education prepares students for highly technical jobs that require specialized skill and training. Career-technical education readies 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.



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2019 Policy Recommendations

In order to continue to provide high quality programming for students and positively impact Ohio's workforce, career-technical educators emphasize the following policy priorities:

1. Funding for Career-Technical Education:

In order to advance career and technical education in Ohio and expand CTE opportunities for students statewide, career-tech representatives, along with other education stakeholders, served on the work group convened by state representatives Bob Cupp (R-Lima) and John Patterson (D-Jefferson) to review the state's school funding formula and submit recommendations for improvement. After a thorough review, CTE representatives submitted the following primary recommendations:

- Maintain base aid for JVSs, comprehensives and compacts;
- Maintain career-technical education "weighted" funding outside the cap/guarantee;
- Establish state programs to secure innovative approaches to career exploration;
- Expand options for Ohioans without a high school diploma.

2. CTE Legislative Initiative:

Senator Matt Huffman (R-Lima) intends to introduce legislation this year that addresses issues impacting CTE teachers and administrators. The overall objective is to reduce state mandates / regulations that impact the ability of Ohio's career-technical educators to deliver quality career-technical instruction. The Bill's recommendations include:

- Create parameters and limitations surrounding Ohio's Education Management Information System (EMIS) and its data collection process;
- Limit unnecessary regulations that apply to career-tech substitute teaching;
- Expand post-secondary credit options for CTE students;
- Allow for the transferability of adult teaching certificates.

3. Ohio Technical Centers/Adult Education:

Ohio's 54 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. Adequate OTC funding is a priority during the 2019 budget process, especially considering OTCs' vital role in ensuring the state reaches its "Go Higher" post-secondary attainment goals. Specific recommendations include:

- Restore the OTC line-item appropriation to the FY 2000 level of \$23,230,243.
- Increase the Short Term Certificate line-item appropriation from \$5 to \$10 million and allow OTCs to access such funding.

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:

Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education / 38 Commerce Park Dr., Suite D / Westerville, OH 43082 p: 614-890-ACTE(2283) www.OhioACTE.org

**Source: Ohio Department of Education, Office of Career-Technical Education, 2016-2017 School Year and the Ohio Department of Higher Education

*Presentation to the Ohio State School Board by the ODE Office of CTE, October 2017