



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 centers also offer adult workforce education.

CTE FAST FACTS*

158,060

Total Number of CTE
Students

120,357

CTE High School Students

37,703

CTE Adult Students
Earning a Credential,
License or Technical
Assessment

100+

Number of Programs
Available

It's About Ohio Jobs

- ◆ As Ohio's economy continues to recover, career-technical education is part of the solution. Career-technical education prepares Ohio high school students and adults for many high-skilled, increasingly technical jobs that are going unfilled.
- ◆ The Skills Gap - defined as more than a high school diploma, but less than a bachelor's degree - is expected to grow to 2 million by 2025.**
Career-tech fills this gap.

Career & Technical Education:

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.
- ◆ 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 40+ high school programs in skilled trades, health occupations, agriculture and business. High school students enter the job market with credentials making good wages or prepared to be successful in college.
- ◆ Adult programs range from two-week certificate classes to longer term credentialing programs.
- ◆ Career-technical education prepares high school students to be ready for work upon graduation and offers adults many short term credentialing programs, which take far less time than traditional two-or four-year degrees, making CTE one of the most productive and affordable educational investments in Ohio.



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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.

2016 – 2017 Policy Recommendations

Career and technical educators appreciate that Governor Kasich and the General Assembly continue to believe in CTE and results that benefit Ohio's workforce efforts. In order to continue to provide quality programming that impacts Ohio's workforce, career-technical educators emphasize the following four policy priorities:

- 1. Ensure Quality Career-Technical Instructors:** Career and technical education must recruit and retain instructors experienced in their professions directly from industry to teach specialized technical skills. We oppose burdensome requirements that drive away quality instructors and do not add to the instructors' ability to teach. One such onerous regulation stands out: the General Assembly should repeal the Resident Educator Summative Assessment ("RESA") for CTE instructors.
- 2. Restore the Tangible Personal Property Tax for JVSs:** Ohio's school funding formula has long provided "replacement" revenue for a lack of tangible property tax funds. In 2015, the legislature restored TPPT funding for local school districts, but inexplicably left out JVSs. With respect to TPPT, the state should not discriminate against JVSs.
- 3. Create a Credentials Commission:** Many CTE programs lead to valuable industry credentials. Unfortunately, the state report card and CTE graduation pathway fail to recognize many valid credentials. The state should establish a "credentials committee" comprised of industry and CTE professionals to review the validity of credentials that should be recognized by the state.
- 4. Promote Adult Career and Technical Education:** Adult students who take advantage of educational opportunities offered through their local, publicly funded Ohio Technical Center increase their marketability in the workforce. A career-technical program is one of the most cost effective options for adult students to gain new skills and credentials. The Ohio Department of Higher Education should promote the opportunities for adults through the Technical Centers, including the One-Year Option, which provides adults the opportunity to apply their knowledge and credits toward an Associate's Degree.

For More Information Contact:

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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