

# WHAT IS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION?



92% of high school students and 69% of college and adult students are engaged in CTE, learning skills in the classroom and on the job.<sup>1</sup>

CTE is delivered at comprehensive and CTE-dedicated high schools, magnet schools, area technical centers, community and technical colleges and some four-year universities.

CTE students earn industry certifications and licenses, postsecondary certificates, associate degrees, bachelor's degrees and higher.

CTE is good for students, good for businesses and good for communities.

CTE high school students are college and career ready – 96% graduate high school and most enroll directly in college.<sup>2</sup>

Associate degrees in CTE fields can pay up to \$2.8 million in lifetime earnings - and pay more than bachelor's degrees in other fields - while limiting student debt.<sup>3</sup>

CTE is the answer to the nation's projected deficit of 6.5 million skilled workers, including infrastructure, health care and manufacturing workforce shortages.<sup>4</sup>

LEARN MORE ABOUT CTE AT [ACTEONLINE.ORG](http://ACTEONLINE.ORG)

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HLS:09), Base-year, 2013 Update, and High School Transcript File; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015-16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

<sup>2</sup> Perkins Collaborative Resource Network, Perkins Data Explorer, customized Consolidated Annual Report data; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Consolidated State Performance Report, 2010-11 through 2017-18; U.S. Department of Education, NCES, HLS:09, Base-year, 2013 Update, High School Transcript, and Second Follow-Up.

<sup>3</sup> Carnevale, A. P., Cheah, B., & Wenzinger, E. (2021). *The college payoff: More education doesn't always mean more earnings*. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce; College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges; NCES, IPEDS Fall 2021 Enrollment data and IPEDS 2022 Institutional Characteristics data.

<sup>4</sup> Construction Industry Resources as cited in Ngo, M. (2021). *Skilled workers are scarce, posing a challenge for Biden's infrastructure plan*. New York Times; Korn Ferry. (2018). *Future of work: The global talent crunch*; Strack, R., Carrasco, M., Kolo, P., Nouri, N., Priddis, M., & George, R. (2021). *The future of jobs in the era of AI*; Wellener, P., Reyes, V., Ashton, H., & Moutray, C. (2021). *Creating pathways for tomorrow's workforce today*.

CTE PREPARES THE WORKFORCE ACROSS A WIDE RANGE OF INDUSTRIES AND OCCUPATIONS.



Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Architecture & Construction



Arts, A/V Technology & Communications

Business Management & Administration



Education & Training

Finance



Government & Public Administration

Health Science



Hospitality & Tourism

Human Services



Information Technology

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security



Manufacturing

Marketing



Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

