

State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

## **ADVANCE CTE MEMBERSHIP**

### **About Our Members**

Advance CTE's members include the State CTE Directors from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S territories. We also serve other state leaders who work on CTE-related issues from state education agencies, community and technical college systems, boards of regents and workforce development agencies. In addition, our membership includes an array of organizations that represent key partners and stakeholders of the CTE system, as well as local- and institution-level leaders. Read about our membership types <a href="here">here</a>.

In 2017, Advance CTE changed its membership structure to provide State Directors with the option of including up to four additional members under the state membership. This action honors and celebrates the growth, diversity and future needs of the CTE community and the organization, while maintaining our commitment to State Directors as critical leaders across the country.

The change also reflects the need for collaboration across and within systems to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's CTE students, the importance of cultivating stakeholder understanding and support for CTE, and the need to support current and future state CTE leaders.

### **Benefits of Membership:**

Have a Voice on the Future of CTE: As a membership organization, Advance CTE directly relies on our members to inform our <u>legislative priorities</u> for federal laws such as the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins), Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Higher Education Act (HEA). These laws make up the core of Advance CTE's successful advocacy efforts with Congress and the Administration. We speak for our members and need your voice.

In addition, our members drive our research and inform a multitude of case studies, reports, fact sheets and tools that are most needed on the topics of greatest importance to you. More broadly, our members' participation in events such as our in-person meetings and webinars as well as their input into surveys guarantees we have a strong foundation of knowledge and guidance to accomplish the mission, vision and goals of the organization.

Gain Access to Unique Resources and Professional Development: Advance CTE members have access to the growing Members Only section of our website. There, you'll find tools to help you implement new federal laws such as ESSA and the WIOA, as well as CTE state policy trackers, where you can search by topic for state CTE policies passed in recent years.

In addition to member-only resources, Advance CTE manages an incredibly informative and resource-packed website, which enjoyed over 350,000 unique visitors in 2016 alone. In particular, the <u>Learning that Works Resource Center</u> is our popular repository of CTE-related research and promising policies.

Finally, we host two national meetings each year, which offer a discounted rate for members. These meetings are packed with opportunities for networking, cross-state sharing and problem solving and critical policy updates.



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Receive Real-Time Updates: As an Advance CTE member, you will receive real-time emails and timely advocacy calls on topics such as Perkins reauthorization, other important federal bills as they make their way through Congress and the federal budget. While staff communicate regularly through multiple channels to members, partners and other supporters, only our members receive such just-in-time information.

Gain Direct Access to Expertise: Advance CTE has a professional staff who are always available to provide direct support to our members. This benefit includes fielding research requests, talking through the implementation of a specific federal or state policy, connecting our members to other national or state resources, or pulling key facts and figures needed for advocacy efforts.

Be Part of a Network: Finally, all Advance CTE members benefit from being part of a network of state leaders. While there are more formal networking activities – such as attending our in-person meetings or joining interactive webinars – Advance CTE also offers more informal ways to connect. All members also have access to our Membership Directory so you can easily find your peers in other states.

### **About Advance CTE**

Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work is the longest-standing national non-profit that represents State Directors and state leaders responsible for secondary, postsecondary and adult Career Technical Education (CTE) across all 50 states and U.S. territories.

Established in 1920, Advance CTE's vision is to support an innovative CTE system that prepares individuals to succeed in education and their careers and poises the United States to flourish in a global, dynamic economy through leadership, advocacy and partnerships. Our mission is to support visionary state leadership, cultivate best practices and speak with a collective voice on national policy to promote academic and technical excellence that ensures a career-ready workforce.