

## QUICK UPDATES

**Note:** We are working with Delivery Associates to update Board reporting templates and communications, with the goal of streamlining and bringing it into alignment with our new strategic plan's three "E's". That work will be completed in the next month or so. In the meantime, we are using a modified version of the prior monthly Board update template.

**Upcoming Advance CTE and The Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings (all times listed are in Eastern)**

Please mark your calendars! All meetings will take place via Zoom unless otherwise specified.

January 26, 2022 – Advance CTE Board Meeting	3 – 4 p.m.	990's, audit, financial update & FY23 state dues determination
January 26, 2022 – The Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting	3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	990's, audit, financial update
February 25, 2022 – Joint Board Meeting	2 – 3 p.m.	budget modifications due to new grants; WIOA recommendation revisions; Career Clusters prototype input
April Board Meetings TBD	TBD	Stocktake, strategy updates
June 29, 2022 – Advance CTE Board Meeting	3 – 4 p.m.	FY23 Budget
June 29, 2022 – Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting	4 – 5 p.m.	FY23 Budget

*\* All times listed above are the eastern time zone*

**Administrative Update:**

- [Haley Wing](#) is joining the team as a Senior Policy Associate on January 10, 2021.
- In December, [Candace Williams](#) joined Advance CTE as a senior research associate, supporting the Postsecondary Data Initiative, our workgroup on credit for prior learning and research on CTE funding. In January, Haley Wing will be joining the team as a senior policy associate, supporting *New Skills ready network* and the CTE without borders initiative, among other projects.
- Advance CTE currently has [open positions](#) posted for a Policy Associate and Senior Policy Associate and interviews are underway for the Director of Communications & Membership.

***Finance Update:*** These numbers represent the July through December 2021 income and expenses, which is 50% of the fiscal year. We received a clean audit and will be presenting the audit report along with the draft 990's at the Board Meeting on January 26. The Center to Advance CTE received new grants from Annie E. Casey, the Joyce Foundation, College in High School Alliance (CHSA), JFF and the Walton Family Foundation. A budget modification will be presented to the Board in February.

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot	Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 81% of budgeted income	Received 84% of budgeted income
Expended 29% of budgeted expenses	Expended 25% of budgeted expenses

***Fundraising:*** Advance CTE is currently pursuing a variety of corporate and foundation contacts to discuss potential grants and contracts. Below is a chart explaining the organization's ongoing grants and any major development activities from this month.

<i>Grant/Proposal/ Contract</i>	<i>Organization /Partner</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Progress Since Last Board Update</i>
Strategies for Recruiting Students into CTE	Siemens Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing, as described below.
New Skills ready network	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
CTE Without Limits, Career Clusters, CLNA/Perkins	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing, as described below.
Partnership for Advancing Youth Apprenticeship	New America (Siemens, Ballmer Group, JPMorgan Chase)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
NSFY Innovation Sites (Data Quality)	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	Given the delay in the equity index (as noted below), we will be requesting one final, three-month no-cost extension to finalize that work.
Equity	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	Our grant for \$325,000 to support principle 2-aligned work around equity- was approved with the grant starting on January 1, 2022.  We are also finalizing our previous grant, which now runs through March 30,2022.
Postsecondary Data Quality	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	Our year two grant report was submitted in December and our third and final year of funding will be released in January 2022.

Postsecondary CTE Fellows Program	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
NIDILRR	UMass Medical School	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
College High School Alliance	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
Stimulus Coalition	Bloomberg, Annie E. Casey, Walton, Beacon Fund, Gates, Carnegie	Ongoing	Advance CTE is partnering with JFF, Education Strategy Group, NGA, ExcelinEd and New America on a multi-funder, multi-year investment to help states and communities leverage stimulus funding to support high-quality and equitable career pathways. While we are still in phase 1, we have received a \$400,000 grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation on behalf of this initiative to support phase 2 work.
CTE Funding & CTE without borders	Walton Family Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UPDATE

**Membership Update:** In December, Advance CTE added five new non-state members, three new state members, and two new associate state members.

- State CTE Directors: 55
- State team members: 212
- Individual associate state: 18
- Individual associate, non-state: 80
- Organizational: 45 organizations, 169 individual organizational members

**State CTE Directors:**

- Maria Swygert is the new acting State CTE Director in South Carolina.

**Member Engagement & Professional Learning:** Advance CTE hosted a members-only Lunch & Learn: Maximizing the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment to Ensure Quality and Equity. Co-presenters included Kate Kreamer, Deputy Executive Director, Advance CTE and Catherine Imperatore, Research Manager, Association for Career and Technical Education sharing lessons learned and offering recommendations for enhancements going forward to ensure the CLNA fully meets its promise of improving the quality of and equitable access to CTE programs of study for each learner. Members then

joined small discussion groups to respond to the presentation and share promising practices and obstacles from their states. Attendance and evaluation data for this L&L are being calculated.

In November, Advance CTE issued a survey to State CTE Directors to gain input on safety precautions and awareness of any state-level travel restrictions to help inform planning for a 2022 Spring Meeting, which may be held in person. Results have been shared with the Executive Committee, alongside a proposal for an in-person Spring State Leadership Retreat. Planning for this event is underway, and State CTE Directors from Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Oregon have been invited to join a Kitchen Cabinet to provide ongoing input into the event.

**Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellowship Program at Advance CTE:** The Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellows participated in the CTE Leadership Collaborative Convening in New Orleans, LA, along with five other Fellowships sponsored by ECMC Foundation. Fellows began building a network during the convening which included researchers, practitioners, data professionals, journalists, policy makers, influencers and business and industry members from the six ECMCF Fellowships. Staff are working on finalizing workshop two, as well as the guidance the Fellows will use for their real-world project.

**New State Director Institute:** The New State Director Institute convened for their second workshop, Ensuring Quality. This workshop was led by Kate Kreamer, Deputy Executive Director, Advance CTE and featured a guest presentation from Wyoming State CTE Director and Advance CTE Rising Star Award Winner, Dr. Michelle Aldrich. State Directors rated the workshop content as 5 out of 5 stars in likeliness to use the information in their own work. They engaged in rich discussion around strengths and challenges to program quality at the secondary and postsecondary levels in their states, as well as timely investigations into the connections between the CLNA process, directing funding, and driving program quality.

## STATE AND FEDERAL CTE POLICY

***Federal Advocacy Update:*** With the holidays in full swing, Congress had a shortened work period during the month of December and mostly attempted to prioritize the still forthcoming Build Back Better Act (BBBA)-- a domestic spending package Congressional Democrats are still aiming to pass via the budget reconciliation process. Advance CTE therefore focused most of its advocacy efforts in December on this effort, as this legislative vehicle is the best near-term opportunity to secure additional funding for the CTE community. As currently structured this legislation would provide \$700 million in supplementary funding for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). Additionally, Advance CTE advocated for the inclusion of \$5 billion for Community College and Industry Partnership grants which are now included in the current bill. Significantly, the organization worked to ensure that certain Area Career Technical Centers are eligible to apply for this funding.

Unfortunately, however, Senator Manchin's (D-WV) continued opposition to the BBBA, "as currently constructed," has led to an uncertain future for the legislation. Intraparty negotiations within the Democratic caucus have continued behind the scenes as lawmakers work to reach an agreement on President Biden's top domestic priority for this year. As those talks continue, Advance CTE will be collaborating with partners on Capitol Hill to ensure full-year funding for the current 2022 federal fiscal year (FY22). Current FY22 funding is set to expire on February 18 and Advance CTE views this upcoming deadline as the next opportunity in early 2022 to secure additional funding for Perkins V.

Finally, Advance CTE has continued to monitor the confirmation process of Dr. Amy Loyd-- President Biden's nominee to become the next Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department's Office of Career, Adult,

and Technical Education (OCTAE). Loyd's nomination was advanced out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and was currently awaiting a final vote by the full chamber. Advance CTE and ACTE have strongly [supported](#) Loyd's nomination and is poised for further engagement following a vote by the full Senate. Due to Senate procedural rules, Lloyd's nomination (along with all nominees from the last session of this Congress) must undergo the Committee confirmation process once again, prior to consideration of the full chamber. While a specific timeline for Loyd's confirmation has not yet been made public, Advance CTE expects her confirmation by the Senate sometime in the first half of 2022.

### **State Policy Update:**

- **Alabama:** Through the PDI, Advance CTE is providing regular coaching to the Alabama Community College System. Currently, Advance CTE is working with Alabama to plan a training on equity gap analysis for postsecondary faculty.
- **Florida:** Through the PDI, Advance CTE is providing ongoing coaching and support to the Florida Department of Education to improve postsecondary work-based learning data quality.

**Credit for Prior Learning:** The CPL SSWG kicked off the first meeting with the workgroup on December 6th. The discussion from the kickoff meeting will provide a foundation for the framing of the key elements of the policy benchmark toolkit. The Workgroup includes participants from Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Nevada, Virginia, Education Strategy Group, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Lumina Foundation, National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships, Credential Engine, CareerWise Colorado, American Council on Education, Midwestern Higher Education Compact and Association of Community College Trustees.

**Career Advising Workshops:** States are preparing for technical assistance sessions with Advance CTE staff offering specific support on program and event structure and strategic communications planning. Planning is beginning for a video and webinar series to share recruitment messages and tools in spring and summer 2022.

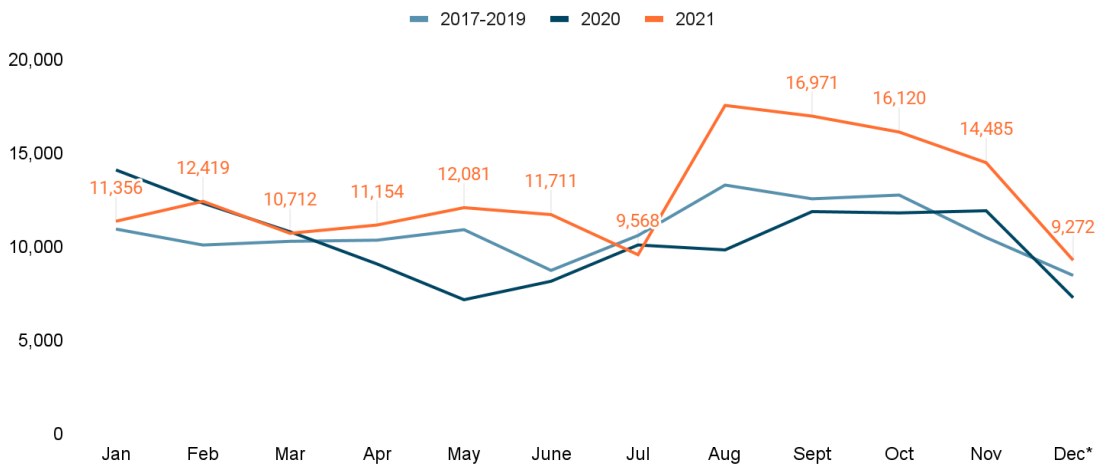
Twenty-eight of the thirty available slots for the career advising workshop have been filled, and scheduling is in progress.

**Data Initiative:** As the Postsecondary Data Initiative (PDI) grantees transition into the final year of the initiative, Advance CTE is working with them to revise budgets and action plans. Due to ongoing limitations from the coronavirus pandemic, grantees have had some challenges spending down their grant awards over the past year, and some states may be delayed in receiving their final grant as a result.

Additionally, the timeline for developing and releasing the CTE Equity Index is being adjusted to address questions and challenges raised by the pilot sites. Advance CTE is working with Education Strategy Group to update the index and develop a comprehensive guidebook for release in summer 2022.

**Learning that Works Resource Center:** The Resource Center sustained a total of 9,272 hits for the month, as of December 23, 2021. Advance CTE's latest report, *Implementing Individual Career and Academic Planning at Scale*, which was released on November 30, received 217 hits in November and 503 in December, for a total of 720 hits in its first month of release.

## Resource Center Monthly Page Views



*\*Through December 23, 2021*

### Equity Strategy Update

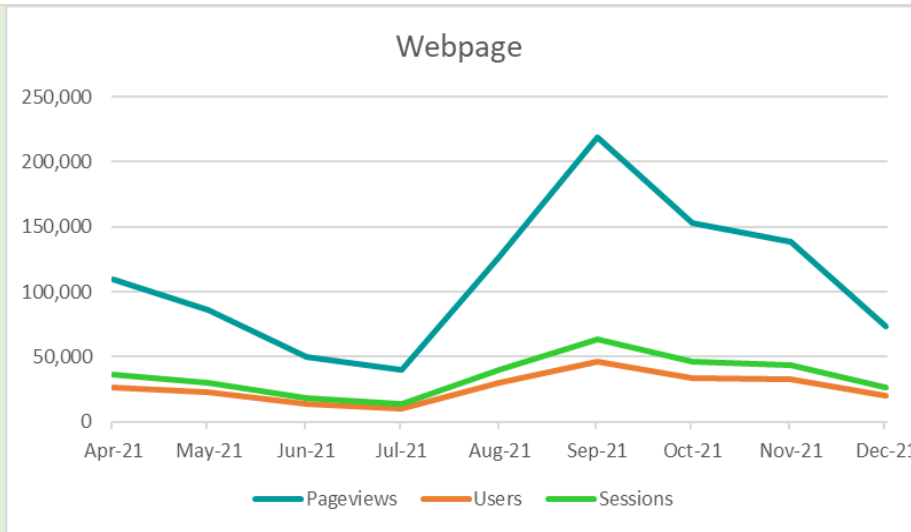
**Opportunity Gap Analysis Support:** Advance CTE held a community of practice call with the states (AR, IL, IN, LA, MD, MT, NM, OK, SC and VT) participating in the opportunity gap analysis initiative. State leaders joined to problem solve common challenges and share strategies for designing, offering, and scaling the opportunity gap analysis process in their own states. The three-month extension provided by the Joyce Foundation has given states the opportunity to approach the work more strategically and reach a wider audience of participants. In the new year, Advance CTE will continue supporting the 10 states in this cohort as we begin planning for the next training in the spring.

**CTE Without Limits Update:** The “Advancing CTE Without Limits” technical assistance contracts have been drafted and sent to the selected states of Colorado, Nebraska, and South Carolina with the plan to execute agreements in January. The Community of Practice kickoff meeting has been announced and will take place virtually on February 7, 2022 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. ET.

States are currently in the process of confirming their participation in the virtual network that is open to all states to support vision implementation. States that have signed up to participate in the community of practice have been sent “Save-the-Dates.” States are highly encouraged to invite cross-sector partners from state agencies, to include higher education and workforce and other key stakeholders to partake in the network and gain strategies to help advance vision principles in their states.

# PROMOTION

## Communications Update:

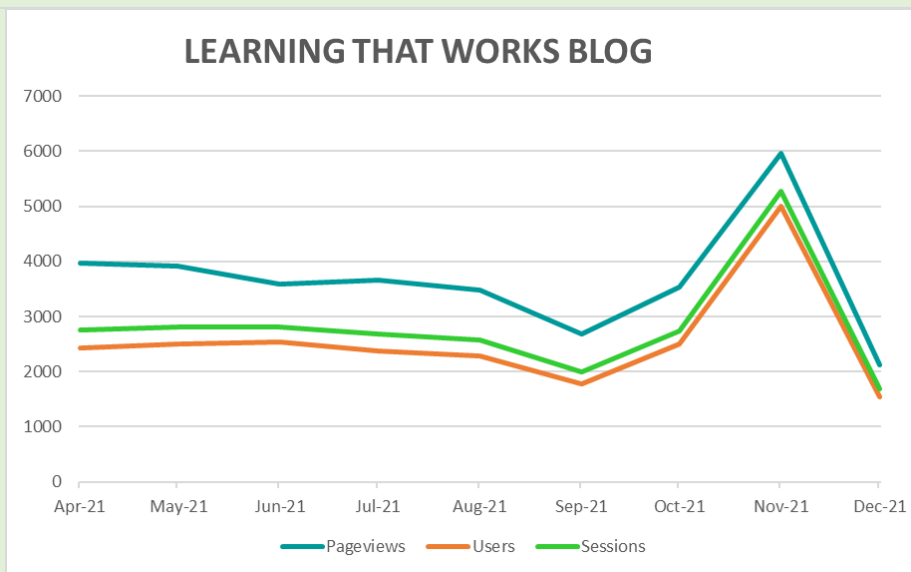


### Major Organizational Releases/Initiatives

- [Career Clusters](#) (19,084)
- [CTE in Your State](#) (401)
- [Implementing Individual Career and Academic Plans at Scale](#) (220)

### Acquisition of site users

- Organic search (42.4%)
- Direct (41.8%)
- Referral (15.1%)
- Social (0.6%)

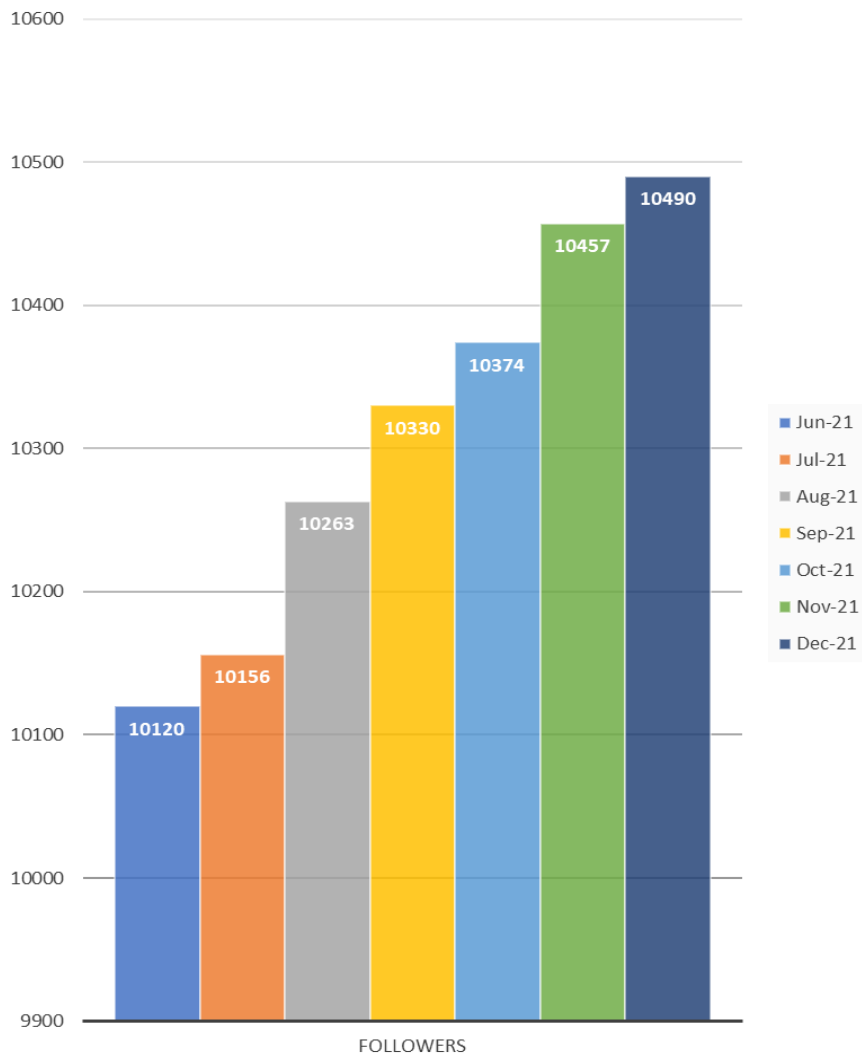


### 15 Blog Posts Published

#### Most visited blogs:

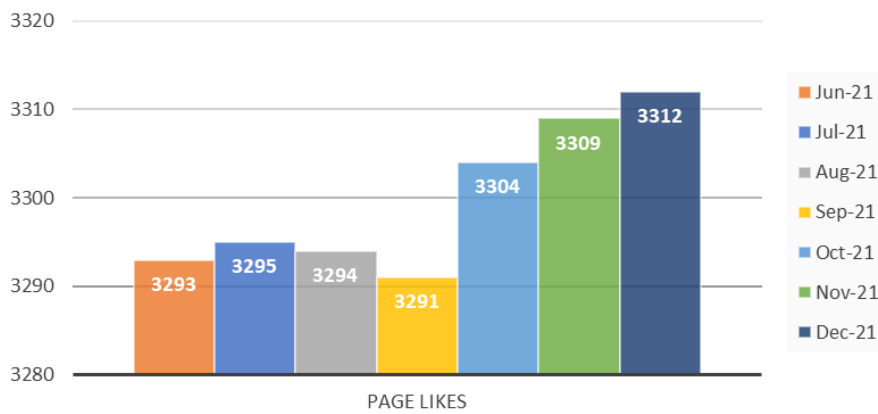
- [Coronavirus Relief Funds: States Leverage Federal Funds to Expand Equitable Access to CTE and Career Advisement Opportunities](#) (164)
- [Standardizing Youth Apprenticeship Data to Effectively Measure Impact in Kentucky](#) (109)
- [Five Strategies to Scale Individual Career and Academic Planning](#) (101)

### Twitter



Twitter: +33

### FACEBOOK



Facebook: +3



**Webpage:** The team celebrates the increase in users to careertech.org that came from organic search. We do not have a breakdown of keywords used during user searches; analytics only provides google/organic as the source. Due to the staff vacation times and office closure, the data reflected in this report only captures pageviews through Thursday, December 16, 2021. It is expected, for this reason, for data to have a downward trend. In January, the communications team will resume strategy to elevate visits to careertech.org and the Learning that Works blog.

## PARTNERSHIPS

Below is a list of Advance CTE's staff most impactful or otherwise notable engagement activities from last month

<b>VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Area Technical Centers: A Local Asset, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE</li> <li>● Building a World Where CTE Has No Limits, CareerTech VISION 2021, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)</li> <li>● Career Readiness and Civic Engagement, Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP)</li> <li>● Elevating and Leveraging the Learner Voice in CTE, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE</li> <li>● Engaging Representatives of Learners with Special Population Status. CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE</li> <li>● Ensuring All Students Graduate Career Ready; Education Chairs Meeting; Las Vegas, NV; National Conference of State Legislatures</li> <li>● Meeting with Undersecretary at the U.S. Department of Education (ED), James Kvaal</li> <li>● State Policy 2021: What's New and What It Means for You, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE</li> <li>● Strategies for Communicating CTE and Connecting with Historically Marginalized Populations, ACTE</li> <li>● Using the Perkins CLNA to Drive Quality and Equity: Successes and Challenges, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE</li> </ul>
<b>VIRTUAL EVENTS ATTENDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Meeting</li> <li>● Changing the Narrative: Black Women in Reality, ColorComm: Women of Color in Communications</li> <li>● Coalition for Career Development Board Meeting</li> <li>● College in High School Steering Committee Meeting</li> <li>● CTE Leadership Collaborative Convening, ECMC Foundation</li> <li>● Delaware Pathways Conference 2021, Delaware Pathways</li> <li>● Fourth Annual State Convening, Credential Engine</li> <li>● Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity Reception, ACTE</li> <li>● Kick off for Selection Panel of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, Aspen Institute</li> <li>● Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Board Meeting</li> <li>● Mentoring Matters: The Role of Mentoring in Registered Apprenticeship Programs for Youth, Urban Institute</li> <li>● <i>New Skills ready network</i> site partner meetings, Boston, Massachusetts</li> <li>● <i>New Skills ready network</i> site partner meetings, Columbus, Ohio</li> <li>● <i>New Skills ready network</i> site partner meetings, Denver, Colorado</li> </ul>

- *New Skills ready network* site partner meetings, Indianapolis, Indiana
- NOCTI Board Meeting
- Partnering for Success: Advancing Credential Transparency for Economic Recovery, Education Commission of the States
- PDK Board Meeting
- SME Joint Nominating Committee Meeting
- Summit: Race, Identity, and Belonging at Work, Youth Engaged 4 Change
- Teach CTE Coalition meeting, ACTE
- The Future of Work and the Workforce: A Conversation with US Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, Brookings Institute
- Title IV-A Coalition Monthly Meeting

## OTHER PARTNERS ENGAGED

- Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
- Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)
- American Council on Education
- Aspen Institute
- Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Coalition
- CareerWise Colorado
- Choose Aerospace
- Committee for Education Funding (CEF)
- Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- Credential Engine
- Data Quality Campaign (DQC)
- Education Credit Management Corporation Foundation (ECMCF)
- ED's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE)
- Education Northwest
- Education Strategy Group (ESG)
- ExcelinEd
- Homework Gap Coalition
- Institute for Higher Education Policy
- JFF
- JOBS Coalition
- Lumina Foundation
- Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)
- MHEC
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)
- National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
- National Association of Workforce Boards
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions: the Consortium
- New America
- Siemens Foundation
- SkillsUSA
- SME and SME Education Foundation
- Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
- Title IV-A Coalition
- University of Massachusetts Medical College
- US Department of Energy, Better Buildings Workforce Accelerator
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)
- Wonder: Strategies for Good
- Youth Engaged 4 Change



*Happy Holidays!*

The Advance CTE office will be closed December 24 - January 2.

## Dear Advance CTE Members,

The other day I started reading “Wintering” by Katherine May. The book had been recommended to me and like many self-help books, I looked at it and said, I’ll read that some day. But this book’s subtitle “*the power of rest and retreat during difficult times*” drew me in, especially since the holidays are upon us and are indeed a time of rest, reflection and gratitude. May writes “*We have seasons when we flourish and seasons when the leaves fall from us, revealing our bare bones. Given time, they grow again.*” 2021 (and 2020, for that matter) revealed our bare bones - as individuals, as leaders, as systems and as a country. The year was filled with the ongoing pain and anger of injustice, the anxiety of living in an ongoing pandemic and the devastation of natural disasters.

As I look to 2022, I do so with hope. I am hopeful that seeds we planted this year will become our season of renewal and growth. These seeds will face difficult growing conditions but with nurturing and support, they will grow and flourish.

At Advance CTE we planted a lot of seeds in 2021. From the release of *Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education* (CTE Without Limits) to our work to [close equity gaps](#). From our work to expand the pipeline of [diverse and qualified state CTE leaders](#) to our work to build awareness of the power and promise of high-quality CTE. This work (our seeds) are nurtured when our community comes together, challenging one another to do more and be better but also freely sharing experiences, knowledge and lessons learned to help mentor new leaders, support one another as peers and friends and ultimately, work together to ensure our learners find their passion and path to fulfillment.

Here is a sneak peak of “seeds” we will be planting soon:

- Our annual member survey will be released next month;
- A new policy brief on braiding local, state and federal funding as part of our *New Skills ready network* initiative to advance high-

- quality career pathways;
- The launch of our now-virtual career advising workshop that will be delivered in 30 states next year; and
- Several new opportunities to participate in cross-state learning and receive technical support through a community of practice for the vision, our opportunity gap workshop, and stimulus workgroup



KIMBERLY GREEN  
Executive Director

I wish you the joy of rest and families gathered during the holiday season. I extend to you gratitude for your continued support and leadership and I look forward to our season of shared growth in 2022.

*Kimberly A. Green*

## Membership Update

Marianne Cappello is the new acting State CTE Director in New Jersey. Welcome Marianne!

New Mexico has an [open position](#) for a State CTE Director. The incumbent will serve in a management capacity to implement the Public Education Department's Career and Technical Education (CTE) Initiatives. Funded initiatives support CTE options for students including both state and federal CTE funding in excess of \$15 million dollars. The CTE Manager oversees a team of coaches who provide vision, leadership, oversight, and technical assistance to high school and community college CTE programs. This position is highly accountable for planning, executing, and evaluating programs. For more information on the open position, please contact Elaine Perea, 505-469-3475 or [Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us](mailto:Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us).

In December, The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) announced a customized technical assistance (TA) opportunity to support states in strengthening reporting on the new Perkins V quality indicators. The TA is intended to supplement, not supplant, state and local efforts to implement the new indicators. The brief [application](#) is available online. The deadline for requests has been extended to January 14, 2022. Please review the attached letter for more details on this exciting opportunity, or contact co-project director Lori Meyer at [lmeyer@manhattanstrategy.com](mailto:lmeyer@manhattanstrategy.com).

*New Resource from Advance CTE*

[Implementing Individual Career and Academic Plans at Scale](#)— While ICAPs are known by a variety of names across states, including Individual Learning Plans, Individual Graduation Plans and more, they all

encourage a learner-centered approach to connecting academic pursuits with career and life goals. ICAPs empower learners and education professionals to make fully informed decisions on paths to career success, including Career Technical Education (CTE), career pathways and postsecondary education.

Today, Advance CTE, in partnership with Education Strategy Group through JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s *New Skills ready network*, released *Implementing Individual Career and Academic Plans at Scale*. This resource highlights five strategies to implement and scale ICAPs at the local and state level:

- Integrating ICAPS into career pathways systems;
- Taking a system-wide approach to implementing ICAPs;
- Building local capacity to support school ICAP delivery;
- Leveraging ICAPs to support learner transitions; and
- Ensuring equity in ICAP implementation.

*Forthcoming in January*

- Resource — *Lessons in Collaboration and Innovation: The Impact and Promise of the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment* — As the field approaches the first two-year mark since the initial Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNAs) were conducted, Advance CTE and the Association for Career and Technical Education partnered to interview an array of state and local CTE leaders to elevate lessons learned and offer recommendations for enhancements going forward to ensure the CLNA fully meets its promise of improving the quality of and equitable access to CTE programs of study for each learner. View the preview of findings in this recent [webinar](#).
- Ask and Expert Session — Recently, Advance CTE released, "[With Learners, Not For learners: A Toolkit for Elevating Learner Voice in CTE](#)." This toolkit provides state and local CTE leaders with actionable resources, guidance and tools to ensure CTE learner voices are elevated and heard for the improvement of CTE policies and practices. As an added support, please join us on [January 27 at 1pm ET](#), where Advance CTE will explain the resource and demonstrate its uses and answer your questions in real time. This session – and the toolkit – is designed for any state or local CTE leader who wants to examine what policies and practices can be leveraged to more authentically engage CTE learners. Register [here](#).

## CTE Without Limits

### **Vision Learning Opportunity: Advancing CTE Without Limits Community of Practice**

Applications are open for state staff to participate in a cross-state learning community to advance implementation of [Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education](#) (CTE



Without Limits). Members are encouraged to apply as well as invite colleagues from your agency, or partners from connected agencies and organizations to realize the potential of the vision across systems .

*Timeline:* February 2022 - October 2022

*Eligibility:* All states, including other team members and state partners

*Goals:* Expand capacity for vision implementation through current or existing state work; Provide meaningful engagement opportunities for states to share real-time promising practices and lessons learned regarding the vision principles

*Commitment:* Attend and actively engage in virtual calls, 60-90 minutes, every other month (some pre-work may be required for each call, agenda provided in advance)

*Next Step:* Apply by Friday, January 21, 2022

[Application link](#)

## **View from the Hill**

Congress' agenda for the end of year has grown long, with a number of important deadlines coinciding in the month of December. As a consequence, Advance CTE has primarily focused its advocacy efforts this month on helping lawmakers in Congress clear the way for two key funding priorities on the near horizon— the 2022 fiscal year (FY22) appropriations bill along with Democrats' forthcoming domestic spending package, known as the Build Back Better Act (BBBA).

On the FY22 funding front, Advance CTE has been focusing on securing full-year funding for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) for the current fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2021. Lawmakers fell short of this goal again, however, and passed another short-term funding agreement that will last through February 18. This is intended to provide Congress more time to negotiate a longer-term deal on full-year funding. Advance CTE is continuing to advocate for an increase in formula funding for Perkins V as part of this bill and is also working to attach other postsecondary provisions— such as an expansion of shorter-term program eligibility for federal student aid funding— to this legislation.

In addition to this work, Advance CTE has continued to collaborate closely with Congressional Democrats on the BBBA. Thus far, Advance CTE and its allies have been successful in advocating for the inclusion of nearly \$5 billion for Community College and Industry partnership grants, as well as \$700 million for Perkins V. Both of these investments are reflected in the House-passed version of BBBA and the current draft under consideration in the Senate. Although lawmakers also fell short in passing BBBA before the Holiday season, President Biden and the vast majority of Congressional Democrats remain committed to its passage early next year. This commitment is underscored by the fact that the Senate will reconvene on January 3, 2022— a return to Capitol Hill that is much earlier than usual (the House, which has already passed the BBBA, is expected to return the following week next year).

As these efforts and more continue into next year, be sure to follow along on all Congressional and Administrative moves relating to CTE via our [Legislative Updates](#).

## Engagement Activities

### Presentations:

- Building a World Where CTE Has No Limits, CareerTech VISION 2021, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
- Elevating and Leveraging the Learner Voice in CTE, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE
- Using the Perkins CLNA to Drive Quality and Equity: Successes and Challenges, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE
- Strategies for Communicating CTE and Connecting with Historically Marginalized Populations, ACTE
- Area Technical Centers: A Local Asset, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE
- State Policy 2021: What's New and What It Means for You, CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE
- Engaging Representatives of Learners with Special Population Status. CareerTech VISION 2021, ACTE
- Ensuring All Students Graduate Career Ready; Education Chairs Meeting; Las Vegas, NV; National Conference of State Legislatures
- Meeting with Undersecretary at the U.S. Department of Education (ED), James Kvaal
- Career Readiness and Civic Engagement, Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP)

### Virtual Events Attended:

- Delaware Pathways Conference 2021, Delaware Pathways
- Partnering for Success: Advancing Credential Transparency for Economic Recovery, Education Commission of the States
- *New Skills ready network* site partner meetings, Boston, Massachusetts
- *New Skills ready network* site partner meetings, Columbus, Ohio
- *New Skills ready network* site partner meetings, Denver, Colorado
- *New Skills ready network* site partner meetings, Indianapolis, Indiana
- CTE Leadership Collaborative Convening, ECMC Foundation
- Teach CTE Coalition meeting, ACTE
- Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity Reception, ACTE
- Title IV-A Coalition Monthly Meeting
- Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Meeting
- Summit: Race, Identity, and Belonging at Work, Youth Engaged 4 Change
- College in High School Steering Committee Meeting
- Mentoring Matters: The Role of Mentoring in Registered Apprenticeship Programs for Youth, Urban Institute
- The Future of Work and the Workforce: A Conversation with US Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, Brookings Institute
- Fourth Annual State Convening, Credential Engine

- Kick off for Selection Panel of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, Aspen Institute
- PDK Board Meeting
- Coalition for Career Development Board Meeting
- Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Board Meeting
- NOCTI Board Meeting
- SME Joint Nominating Committee Meeting
- Changing the Narrative: Black Women in Reality, ColorComm: Women of Color in Communications

Partners Engaged:

- ACTE
- Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)
- American Council on Education
- Aspen Institute
- Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Coalition
- CareerWise Colorado
- Choose Aerospace
- Committee for Education Funding (CEF)
- Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- Credential Engine
- Data Quality Campaign (DQC)
- ECMC Foundation
- Education Northwest
- Education Strategy Group (ESG)
- ExcelinEd
- Homework Gap Coalition
- Institute for Higher Education Policy
- JFF
- JOBS Coalition
- Lumina Foundation
- MDRC
- MHEC
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)
- National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
- National Association of Workforce Boards
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions: the Consortium
- New America
- OCTAE
- Siemens Foundation
- SkillsUSA
- SME and SME Education Foundation
- Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
- Title IV-A Coalition
- University of Massachusetts Medical College
- US Department of Energy, Better Buildings Workforce Accelerator
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)
- Wonder: Strategies for Good
- Youth Engaged 4 Change





