

**QUICK UPDATES**

**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.

June 29, 2021 – Advance CTE Board	3 – 3:30 p.m.	Approve FY22 Budget, Executive Session re: Executive Director Contract, Region B representative appointment
June 29, 2021 - Joint Board Meeting	3:30 – 4 p.m.	Strategic Plan Vote, Career Clusters Prototype vote
June 29, 2021 – The Center to Advance CTE Board	4– 4:30 p.m.	Approve FY22 Budget

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

***We are working on the FY22 Board dates and will share them in the next update!***

**Finance Update:** The numbers below represent the FY21 finances for July 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021, which is 92% of the fiscal year. Advance CTE has surpassed its income target, while The Center to Advance CTE is on pace to meet its income projections. Expenses are below projections due to travel and in-person meeting restrictions due to the ongoing pandemic.

<b>Advance CTE Budget Snapshot</b>
Received 115% of budgeted income
Expended 63% of budgeted expenses

<b>Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot</b>
Received 98% of budgeted income
Expended 70% 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.

<b>Grant/Proposal/ Contract</b>	<b>Organization /Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Progress Since Last Board Update</b>
<b>Strategies for Recruiting Students into CTE</b>	Siemens Foundation	Ongoing	<p>Staff released a request for proposals the first week of May for six states to receive a \$20,000 grant to support recruitment projects that incorporate <i>Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment</i>. Staff held an information session attended by six states and conducted individual outreach and support sessions to six more. The grant recipients will be chosen in June with work to begin in August 2021.</p> <p>Staff conducted three presentations on the research this month, and two applications have been accepted for state and national presentations later this year.</p> <p>Recruitment has commenced for additional facilitators for the upcoming virtual workshop, Empowering Students to Pursue their Career Goals, with an intentional focus on professionals of color with counseling and facilitation experience. The launch of the virtual workshop is now planned for early fall</p>
<b>New Skills ready network</b>	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
<b>Perkins Implementation, Career Clusters, CTE Summit</b>	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	Our next proposal for \$500,000 over 18 months has been approved and payment is on the way, with a start date of June 1. This new grant will continue to support vision, Career Clusters and Perkins implementation supports.
<b>Partnership for Advancing Youth Apprenticeship</b>	New America (Siemens, Ballmer Group, JPMorgan Chase)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
<b>New Skills for Youth – Innovation Sites &amp; Data Quality</b>	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	We will be seeking another no-cost extension to continue the work of the data working group and the planned releases of the metrics framework and equity index in FY22.
<b>Perkins implementation &amp; Equity</b>	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	We have received a no-cost extension through December 2021 to support the deliverables from our shared solutions workgroup on elevating the CTE learner voice and the opportunity gap train-the-trainer workshop.
<b>Area Technical Centers</b>	Lumina Foundation	Ongoing	We are working to submit a concept paper for the next round of potential funding to extend the area technical centers research and state supports.
<b>Postsecondary Data Quality</b>	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.

<b>Postsecondary CTE Fellows Program</b>	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	Work is progressing on the Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellowship Program at Advance CTE – Sponsored by ECMC Foundation and the Advisory Committee had its first meeting in late May.
<b>NIDILRR</b>	UMass Medical School	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
<b>National Study on Community College Workforce Programs</b>	Lumina Foundation (Opportunity America)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
<b>College High School Alliance</b>	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing
	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing
<b>Walton Family Foundation</b>		In discussions	In May, we had a follow up call to discuss potential research projects focused on CTE funding models and “CTE without borders.” We are waiting on potential next steps.
<b>American Student Assistance (ASA)</b>		In active discussions	At the request of ASA, Advance CTE submitted a short proposal focused on work-based learning in May. The funder reached out for a conversation to discussion the proposal further. This will happen in early June
<b>Stimulus Support</b>	Multiple	In active discussions	In May, Advance CTE participated in a funders collaborative meeting, facilitated by New America, to advise funders on how to ensure stimulus funds were used to support career pathways. Following this meeting, Advance CTE continued to engage with the other participating national organizations. Collectively, we submitted a short prospectus, which includes a planning grant and a longer-term investment to provide TA to states and locals around stimulus funding.
<b>DOL-Apprenticeship</b>	American Institutes of Research (AIR) Council of State Governments (CSG)	Proposal submitted	Advance CTE was approached by a number of organizations to join onto to applications for the new Department of Labor apprenticeship centers. In April, we ultimately joined two organizations – AIR, which is applying for the Strategic Partnerships and Alignment Technical Assistance Center and CSG, which his applying for the Diversity and Inclusion Technical Assistance Center. If awarded, we would receive approximately \$400,000 over four years for either or both proposals. The selected proposals are expected to be announced in June.

## Priority: Empower members through PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

**Membership Update:** In May, Advance CTE added five new Associate Non-State members.

- State Directors: 55
- State Team Members: 211
- Individual Associate State: 20
- Individual Associate Non-State: 110
- Organizational: 48 organizations, 175 individual organizational members

**Member Engagement & Professional Learning:** Advance CTE did not hold formal virtual professional learning events in May following the Spring Meeting; however, members had plenty of opportunities to connect with one another.

Thirteen State Directors representing all five Advance CTE regions and both secondary and postsecondary systems have agreed to join the Vision Kitchen Cabinet to help inform Advance CTE’s work and supports in this early phase of the Without Limits vision implementation. The first meeting was held in late May and the Kitchen Cabinet will continue to meet on a monthly basis through early Fall.

The current cohort of the New State Director Institute met for their fourth and final workshop this month. [Katie Fitzgerald](#), Director of Communications & Membership and [Stacy Whitehouse](#), Senior Associate, Communications & State Engagement, co-led a highly interactive session *Building and Maximizing Collaboration* to encourage State Directors to map their stakeholders and consider how to leverage high-impact partnerships. A formal and comprehensive evaluation of the year-long program’s impact is underway; average evaluation scores from the four workshops is presented below.

Please rate the degree to which this session increased your understanding of the topic: (5 point scale)	<b>4.55</b>
How likely are you to use the information you learned in this session in your own work? (5 point scale)	<b>4.92</b>

## Priority: Ensure the adoption and implementation of high-quality state and federal CTE POLICY.

**Federal Advocacy Update:** At the very end of the month, the White House released its Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) full budget proposal. Differently from prior years, this proposal did not only list requests for the FY22 appropriations bills, but also named requested funding through the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. This request calls for a \$20 million increase (only approximately 1.5%) to the Perkins Basic State Grant, as well as a \$108 million increase for National Programs- of which \$100 million would fund competitive awards for middle and high school CTE innovation projects aimed at advancing equity and \$8 million would fund technical assistance and grant evaluations. Given that the education budget was increased by approximately 40% in the proposal, Advance CTE was disappointed by the 1.5% increase for the Basic State Grant. Interestingly, the request also includes a new \$1 billion annually for 10

years to support middle and high school career pathways- this funding would happen separately through the passing of the American Jobs Plan. When the different funding streams come together, the Administration requested essentially doubling the investment in CTE- an encouraging signal of support for the CTE community.

Advance CTE in partnership with the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) released a statement on this proposal, which can be viewed [here](#).

In a shift from previous years and because of the delay in the release of the President's budget, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona testified at a House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) hearing on the FY22 skinny budget request from the Biden Administration. The hearing also made mention of the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. In his opening statement, Secretary Cardona called out the importance of CTE and the need to make higher education affordable and accessible for each student. During this hearing, Representative Josh Harder (D-CA) used his time to discuss the importance of CTE. Secretary Cardona responded by stating the value of giving learners different educational options and making connections to workforce needs. He also brought up the idea of creating a "second shift" at schools- meaning that buildings are kept open beyond the K-12 school hours so that under-employed adults can use the existing space to receive education and workforce training and earn a credential. Representative Harder spoke in support of expanding Pell Grant eligibility to high-quality short-term programs, a view that Advance CTE endorses, and asked the Secretary if he would consider opening Pell or other funding streams. In response, Secretary Cardona said he is open to learning more about this issue because our systems need to evolve to meet the needs of learners. This was a positive response, and signals that the Administration is open to exploring expanded Pell eligibility.

Advance CTE also monitored Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization and advocated for CTE priorities within reauthorization. In response to a public request from the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Advance CTE submitted recommendations for reauthorization- which included the Board approved [WIOA reauthorization recommendations](#) and additional details on where they fit into the law. The House Committee on Education and Labor's Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment also held the first two of three hearings on WIOA. The topics covered youth employment and creating employment pathways for dislocated workers. The unintended consequences of the current split of funds between in-school and out-of-school youth was brought up multiple times, including by Subcommittee Chairwoman Frederica Wilson (D-FL). A proposed new strategy for this funding formula is included in Advance CTE's recommendations, and it was encouraging to hear that members of Congress are willing to reconsider the current formula. During the second hearing, we were thrilled to watch Indiana State CTE Director PJ McGrew testify to Congress.

### **Congressional Offices Engaged**

- Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA)
- Senator Rob Portman (R-OH)
- Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI)
- Rep. GT Thompson (R-PA)
- House Committee on Education and Labor
- Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

## **State Policy Update:**

**Advancing The Framework:** Since the beginning of May, Advance CTE and Vivayic have closed the innovation portal used to collect ideas surrounding the National Career Clusters Framework; over 150 participants submitted over 400 ideas that will be used to help generate prototypes of a new framework. Advance CTE hosted the first of two facilitated workshops that brought together 15 national experts to discuss the ideas and future steps of the Advancing the Framework initiative. A second session with a very similar group of experts will be conducted on June 10.

**Elevating and Leveraging the Learner Voice in CTE Workgroup:** The CTE Learner Voice Shared Solutions Work Group met for the fourth time on May 24th to give input to the draft toolkit that will become the product of this workgroup. Input was gathered from the workgroup to inform the final version. The final meeting of this workgroup will be held June 23rd.

**Equity Initiative:** Advance CTE's newest equity resource, *Brave Dialogues: A Guide to Discussing Racial Equity in Career Technical Education*, will be released on Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Accompanying the resource will be a facilitation guide, a virtual "Ask an Expert" webinar, and at least one training workshop to take place later this summer.

**Advancing Postsecondary CTE Data Quality Initiative:** This month Advance CTE convened the full cohort of states, including the seven un-funded states that are part of the network, for a problem of practice discussion. The discussion focused on the University of the District of Columbia - Community College's efforts to build a data-focused culture among faculty and staff.

**JPMC New Skills ready network:** This past month, Advance CTE and ESG co-hosted a three-day convening for the six New Skills ready network sites that provided opportunities for cross-site collaboration and learning from experts around data, equity, and communication, among other topics. Advance CTE conducted a pre-conference to help sites build data capacity, focusing on building a high-quality data ecosystem, selecting relevant metrics, and using GIS mapping technology to evaluate access to career pathways. Advance CTE also led a pre-conference around communications and messaging.

**Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship (PAYA):** This month New America announced six new PAYA grantees: ABQ Partners for Youth Apprenticeship (Albuquerque, NM); Ascend Indiana (Indianapolis, IN); Career Launch Kalamazoo (Kalamazoo, MI); LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network (Riverside County, CA); Southeast Tennessee Works (Chattanooga, TN); and Youth Apprenticeship of Western New York Partnership (Buffalo, NY). These grantees will receive funding and technical assistance to support early-stage design and implementation of programs over 18 months. Separately, Advance CTE convened the PAYA data workgroup and discussed the role of education partners in supporting a high-quality youth apprenticeship data ecosystem.

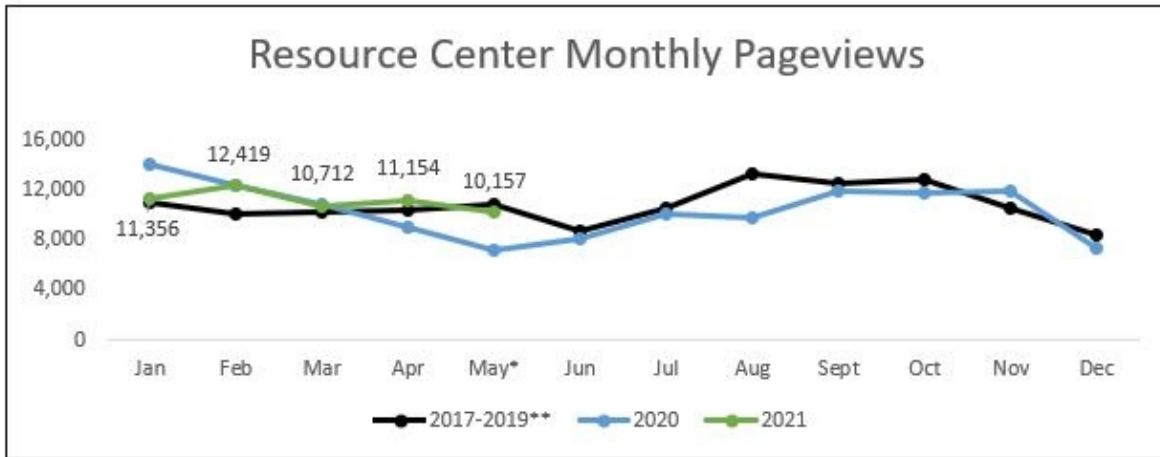
## **Publications:**

- [Intentional Acts of Dual Enrollment: State Strategies for Scaling Early Postsecondary Opportunities in Career Pathways](#) was released early May featuring state and local examples from Tennessee, Utah and Ohio.
- In June, Advance CTE will release a brief on state-and-local partnerships to advance career pathways and snapshots and an annual report on the first year of *New Skills ready network*.

**Learning that Works Resource Center:** The Resource Center sustained a total of 10,157 hits for the month of May. The top two resources for this month include Advance CTE's Career Clusters Student

Interest Survey, followed by Advance CTE's Practical Guidance for Aligning Career Pathways to Labor Market Data in the Time of COVID-19.

Advance CTE has launched two microsites to support the data policy benchmark tool and the area technical centers resources. This month, the microsite for area technical centers sustained 156 views and the microsite for the data policy benchmark tool sustained 526 views\*.



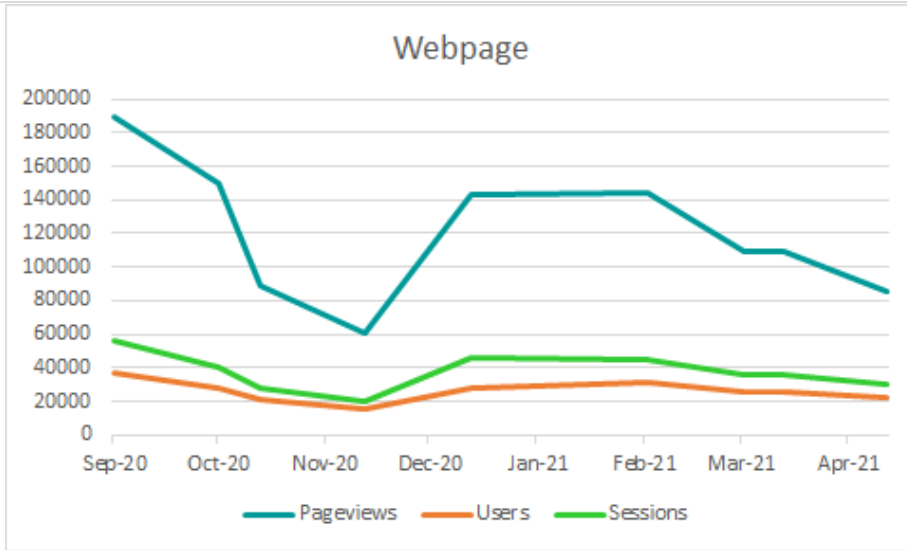
\*Reported data for May include website traffic through May 25, 2021

\*\* Reported data represents an average of website for the years 2017-2019.

**CTE Without Limits:** In the past month, another organization signed on (American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences), bringing the total to 41 national organizations supporting *Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education*. In May, Advance CTE released a [session-in-a-box](#) to support members present on the new vision, announced our summer [lunch and learn series](#), which kicks off in June, and hosted our first meeting of a member kitchen cabinet, which is advising Advance CTE on the most needed supports and resources. Work is underway on a blog series, highlighting partners, a repository that elevates major initiatives and investments aligned to the vision and its principles, and a resource to support states' adoption and implementation of the new vision. We are also continuing to engage partners and funders to maintain momentum and make connections across their work and the vision.

Priority: Raise the visibility and PROMOTION of high-quality CTE

**Communications Update:**

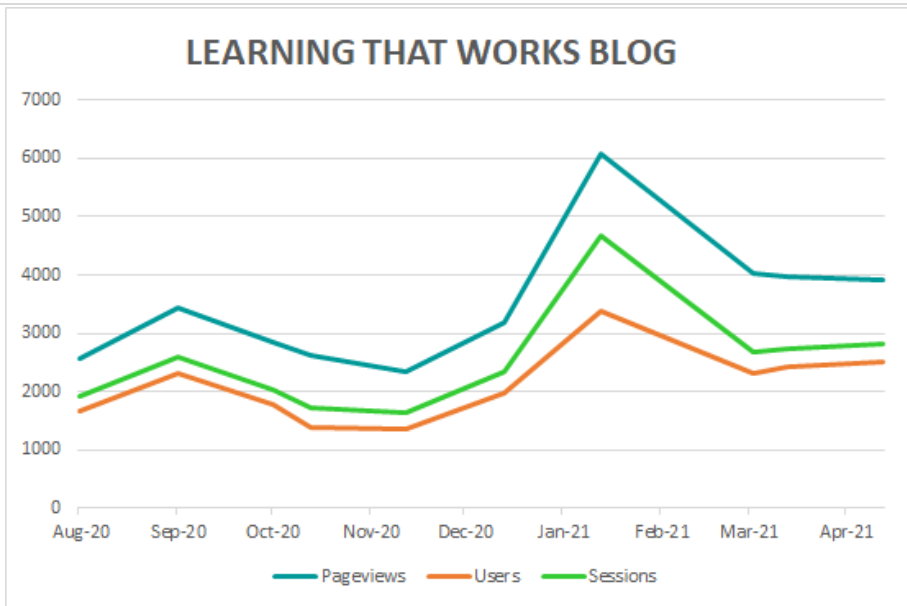


**Major Organizational Releases/Initiatives**

- CTE Without Limits (1,168)
- Intentional Acts of Dual Enrollment: State Strategies for Scaling Early Postsecondary Opportunities in Career Pathways (556)
- Practical Guidance for Aligning Career Pathways to Labor Market Data in the Time of COVID-19 (593)
- Promote CTE: Engaging Families and Learners (773)

**Acquisition of site users**

- Direct (56%)
- Organic search (25.1%)
- Referral (17.6%)
- Social (1.1%)



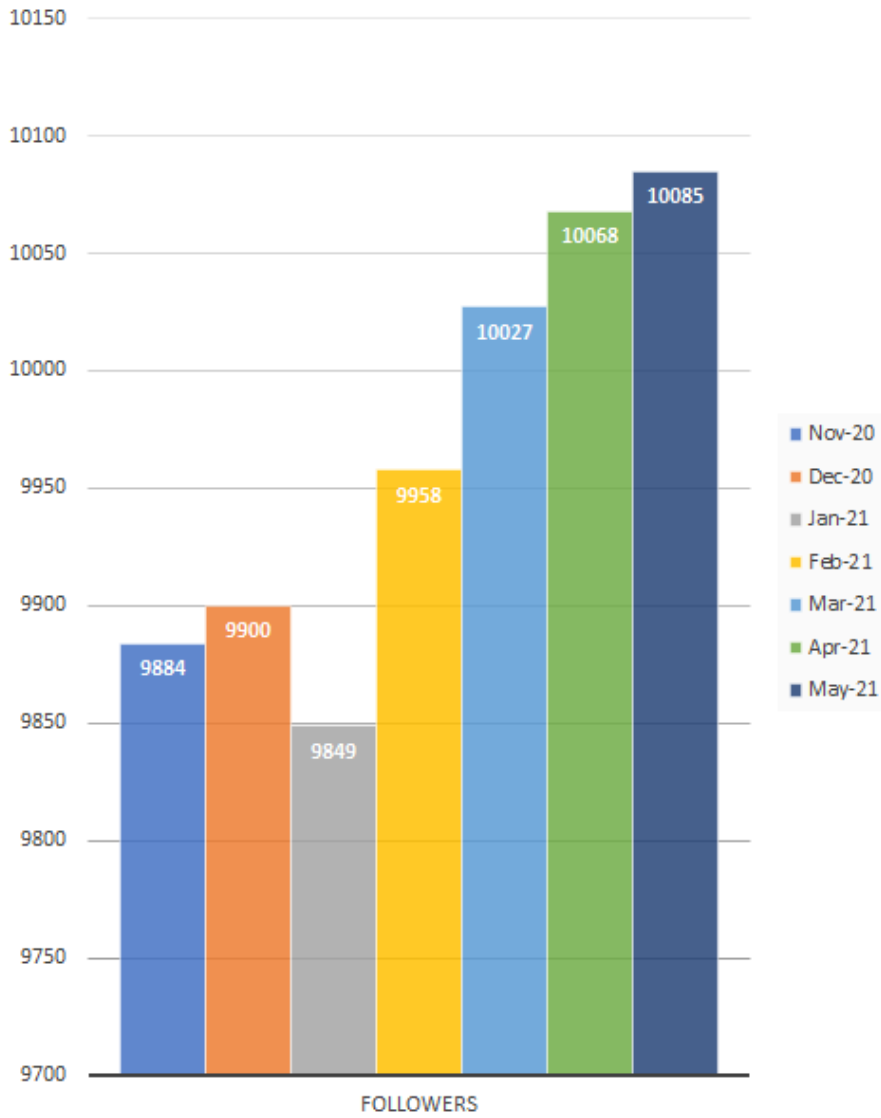
**15 Blog Posts Published**

Most visited blogs:

- [Legislative Update: OCTAE Deputy Assistant Secretary and President's FY22 Skinny Budget Proposal](#)
- [Legislative Update: WIOA Hearing and Updates from ED](#)
- [Research Review: Promising Practices for Reducing Racial Disparities in Academic Outcomes](#)

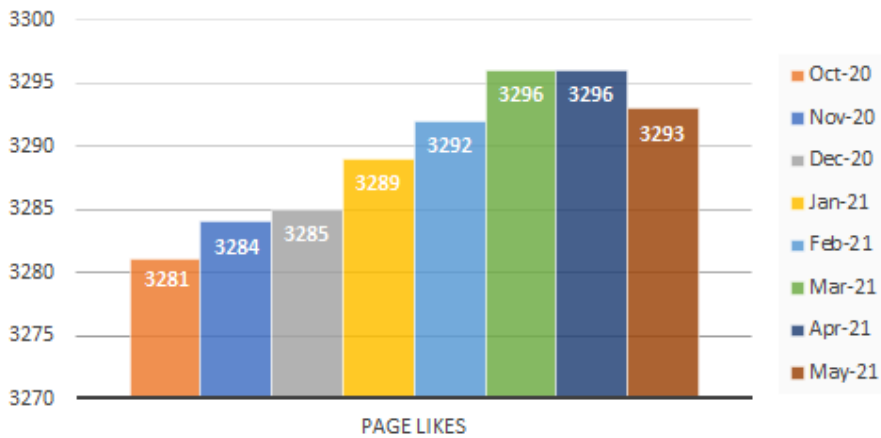


## Twitter



Twitter: +17

## FACEBOOK



Facebook: -3

**Media Engagement:** Staff continued to sustain current relationships with media outlets this month, conducting an interview with Bloomberg Industry on the upcoming Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization, and are in the process of proofreading the interview with Bottom Line Personal for publication. Advance CTE will be holding a media roundtable with current and previous Fellows of Citizens and Scholars Higher Education Media Fellowship on June 16, providing individualized advice and connections to current fellows as their capstone projects continue. Finally, Advance CTE’s press releases continued to focus on federal policy this month with a joint press release with ACTE on the release of the President’s Fiscal Year 2022 budget proposal.

**Priority: Build and maintain strong and effective PARTNERSHIPS that advance our vision and mission.**


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

<p><b>VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond the Numbers: Design Principles for Reporting CTE Data, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)</li> <li>• Bloomberg Philanthropies Funders Collaborative</li> <li>• Career Development Coalition National Meeting</li> <li>• Coalition for Workforce Development through CTE, Association for Career &amp; Technical Education (ACTE)</li> <li>• Communicating CTE, Pennsylvania ACTE Conference</li> <li>• CTE Opportunity Gap Workshop, American Association of Community Colleges</li> <li>• EdEquityVA Webinar Series - Equity in CTE Programs, Virginia Department of Education</li> <li>• Federal Policy Update, National Association for Career &amp; Technical Education Information (NACTEI), National Perkins Leadership Conference</li> <li>• National Center for College and Career Transitions (NC3T) Podcast</li> <li>• National Center for Homeless Education Webinar</li> <li>• New Skills Ready Network Data, Pre-Conference</li> <li>• New Skills Ready Network, Executive’s Session</li> <li>• New Skills Ready Network, Spring Convening</li> <li>• New State Director Institute Workshop, Advance CTE</li> <li>• Supporting Career and Technical Education Access and Success for Learners Experiencing Homelessness Webinar, National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) and Advance CTE</li> <li>• Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Workforce Education Division Retreat</li> </ul>
<p><b>VIRTUAL EVENTS ATTENDED</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation Pathways Partner Engagement Session</li> <li>• Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce</li> <li>• College in High School Alliance Steering Committee Meeting</li> <li>• Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Board Meeting</li> <li>• Credential Engine Monthly State Policy Partners Meeting</li> </ul>

- FY 2022 Budget Request for the Department of Education Hearing, House Appropriations Subcommittee
- National Advisory Board for Credentials As You Go Meeting
- National Career Pathways Partnerships Advisory Board
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions: The Collaborative Capacity Building Institute
- Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship Partner Meeting
- Polling Data Review On Biden’s First 100 Days, ACG
- Title IV-A Coalition Meeting
- WE ARE STEM and CTE Partners Meeting
- WIOA Reauthorization: Creating Opportunities for Youth Employment Hearing, House Education and Labor Subcommittee
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Employment Pathways for Dislocated Workers, House Education and Labor Subcommittee

**OTHER PARTNERS  
ENGAGED**

- American Association of Community Colleges
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Association for Career Technical Education (ACTE)
- Avenue Scholars
- Center for American Progress
- Connect Ed
- Credential Engine
- Delivery Associates
- Education Northwest
- Education Strategy Group
- Education Trust
- Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor
- EntreEd
- First Robotics
- JFF
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
- National Association for Career Technical Education Information
- National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- National Association Workforce Boards
- National Center for Homeless Education
- National Center for Supply Chain Automation
- National Governors Association
- National Institute for Cybersecurity Education
- National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI)
- National Restaurant Association
- National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation
- National Skills Coalition
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions
- New America
- OCTAE, U.S. Department of Education
- The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

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- Pathways to Adult Success (Johns Hopkins University Everyone Graduates Center)
  - PDK International
  - ReadyCT
  - SME
  - Southern Regional Education Board
  - The Woolsey Group
  - unMudl
  - University of Massachusetts Medical School
  - Vivayic
  - Walton Family Foundation
  - Wonder: Strategies for Good



## ADVANCE CTE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

YOUR VOICE FROM THE NATION'S CAPITAL

### Dear Advance CTE Members,

This month has not only been a continuation of our Spring Meeting that celebrated and highlighted the progress of our CTE community and our members, but a time of productive output in terms of support for members as we slowly move away from crisis management and revisit the challenging strategic work ahead:

- A series of [three policy briefs](#) featuring 10 state and four local examples of promising practices to strengthen career pathways as part of the *New Skills ready network* initiative, a five year \$35 million initiative aimed at developing pathways and policy recommendations that give underserved students access to higher education and real-world work experiences that lead to high-wage, in-demand jobs;
- A newly-released Request for Proposal (RFP) will support six states in implementing our [updated messaging research](#) on communicating to families about CTE. Please email [stacy.whitehouse@careertech.org](mailto:stacy.whitehouse@careertech.org) for more information and the application. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, June 2;
- Our members-only [Session in a Box](#) resource provides ready-made and easily customizable presentation tools for members to raise awareness of our [new vision](#) to stakeholders and highlight areas of action; and
- Our [crowdsourcing site](#) to collect ideas to modernize the National Career Clusters Framework through five idea challenges far exceeded our submission goal. We look forward to engaging members in developing and testing prototypes in the next phase of this project.

Thank you for your continued commitment to transformative progress. I wish everyone a reflective and restful Memorial Day weekend!



*Kimberly A. Green*

KIMBERLY GREEN  
Executive Director

## Membership Update

Advance CTE is pleased to announce the winners of the recent Board of Directors election:

- Secretary/Treasurer: Angel Malone, State CTE Director, **South Carolina** Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education
- At-Large: Tiara Booker-Dwyer, Assistant State Superintendent, **Maryland** State Department of Education
- Region D: Thalea Longhurst, State CTE Director, **Utah** State Board of Education

Congratulations Angel, Tiara and Thalea and thank you to the record number of candidates who ran for these three positions!

Pete Callas has been named State CTE Director in **California**.  
Congratulations Pete!

Sarah Williams is the Interim State CTE Director in **Tennessee**.

**Texas** is hiring for two positions within the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The **Director of Career and Technical Education** performs highly advanced managerial work providing direction and guidance in strategic operations and planning. They are responsible for leading and overseeing statewide, multi-stakeholder engagement in CTE, Industry Certifications, Career and Technical Student Organizations, programs of study, and career pathways for students. For more information and to apply click [here](#).

The **Director of College, Career, and Military Preparation (CCMP)** provides division-wide leadership, oversight and guidance for statewide secondary programs. This position is responsible for leading collaborative efforts with institutions of higher education and workforce partners to build pathways for student success and to provide best practices to support students through their pathways to college, career, and/or the military. The Director is also responsible for providing leadership and support to districts regarding options for effective evidence-based CTE programming and implementation of college and career readiness school models. For more information and to apply click

here.

### *New resources from Advance CTE*

- *Intentional Acts of Dual Enrollment: State Strategies for Scaling Early Postsecondary Opportunities in Career (EPSO) Pathways* - This policy brief by Advance CTE, in partnership with Education Strategy Group (ESG) through JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s *New Skills ready network*, offers best practices for designing strong statewide policies for removing barriers for participation in EPSOs in postsecondary credential and degree programs that lead to high-skill, high-wage and in-demand careers.
- *Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment* - The report provides tested messages about the value and benefits of CTE that resonate with families based on ten focus groups and an online national survey of over 2,100 families in middle and high school both considering and participating in CTE. This report is an update to similar research conducted in 2017, with an additional emphasis on messaging for Black and Latinx families and families experiencing low income. Despite major transformations to learning and work, many of the messages and themes from 2017 still resonate today while providing a refresh through message tailoring to address equity gaps

### From Our Partner Organizations

- Research/Report - JFF - *From Labor market Information to Pathways Design: Foundational Information for Intermediaries*
- Research/Report - Credential Engine - *Credential Transparency & P20W Data Systems: Aligning Education and Employment Information to State Talent Goals*
- Research/Report - American Student Assistance and Bellwether Education Partners - *Working to Learn and Learning to Work: A State-by-State Analysis of High School Work-Based Learning Policies*

### Forthcoming in June:

- **Annual Report and Site Snapshots** — *New Skills ready network*— Advance CTE will highlight site examples of progress across the four program priorities for the *New Skills ready network*, and provide lessons learned.
- **Policy Brief** — *Leveraging Federal Legislation for Vision Implementation* — As states begin to think through their new Perkins year, CTE leaders can leverage this resource for implementation plans and for keeping the momentum going for advancing the work around the new shared vision.
- **Guide/Tool** — *Equity Facilitation and Discussion Guide*— A tool for state CTE leaders as they engage in conversations around racial equity in CTE with their state teams.

## View from the Hill

This month, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona testified at a House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) hearing on the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) skinny budget request from the Biden Administration. The hearing also made mention of the [American Jobs Plan](#) and [American Families Plan](#). In his opening statement, Secretary Cardona called out the importance of CTE and the need to make higher education affordable and accessible for each student. He also highlighted investments in Pell Grants, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), as well as programs such as TRIO and GEAR UP.

Representative Josh Harder (D-CA) used his time to discuss the importance of CTE. Secretary Cardona responded by stating the value of giving learners different educational options, and making connections to workforce needs. He also brought up the idea of creating a “second shift” at schools- meaning that buildings are kept open beyond the K-12 school hours so that under-employed adults can use the existing space to receive education and workforce training and earn a credential. Representative Harder spoke in support of expanding Pell Grant eligibility to high-quality short-term programs, a view that Advance CTE shares, and asked the Secretary if he would consider opening Pell or other funding streams. In response, Secretary Cardona said he is open to learning more about this issue because our systems need to evolve to meet the needs of learners.

A full budget request from the White House is expected on May 28. Advance CTE will be analyzing what this proposal means for CTE.

Advance CTE also monitored Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization and advocated for CTE priorities within reauthorization. In response to a public request from the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Advance CTE submitted [recommendations for reauthorization](#). The House Committee on Education and Labor’s Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment also held the first two of three hearings on WIOA. The topics covered youth employment and creating employment pathways for dislocated workers. The unintended consequences of the current split of funds between in-school and out-of-school youth was brought up multiple times, including by Subcommittee Chairwoman Frederica Wilson (D-FL). A proposed new strategy for this funding formula is included in Advance CTE’s recommendations.

To follow along with Congressional and administration actions related to CTE, check out our [Legislative Updates](#).

## State Policy Updates



Since April 1, over 30 legislative bills connected to CTE have been passed into law. Here are some highlights from the past six weeks:

- **Tennessee** Public Chapter 271 directs the Tennessee Department of Education to prepare middle school learners for CTE pathways through career exploration opportunities that allow learners to explore high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand careers (enacted May 5, 2021; effective immediately).
- **Washington** SB5194 requires all community and technical colleges to create and submit strategic plans for achieving diversity, equity, and inclusion of all races on campus using an inclusive process of stakeholder engagement. The law also requires community and technical colleges to develop opportunities for learners from marginalized communities to form student-based organizations, to establish culturally appropriate recruitment, outreach and support programs, and to develop a model faculty diversity program (enacted May 12, 2021; effective July 25, 2021).
- **North Dakota** HB1478 provides additional flexibility for alternative curricula, allowing a school board to allow students in grades six through twelve to earn course credit through educational opportunities including work-based learning, pre-apprenticeship, internships, industry certifications, etc. with a sponsoring entity (i.e. a business, for- or non-profit organization, trade association, etc.) (enacted April 20, 2021; effective immediately).
- **New Hampshire** HB304 establishes a nine-person committee to study and make recommendations for tuition reimbursement and transportation for CTE learners and identify policy and funding strategies to increase access to CTE for all learners (enacted April 26; effective immediately).

35 states are still in session, so we expect to see new legislation enacted over the next month. We are continuing to track introduced legislation, bills in committees, or new laws passed throughout the year. If there is legislation you'd like us to know about, or if you have questions about state legislation, please contact policy associate Dan Hinderliter at [dhinderliter@careertech.org](mailto:dhinderliter@careertech.org).

## CTE Without Limits

Here are four easy steps you and your organization can take to move forward on and build momentum for CTE Without Limits.

1. **Build** awareness and commitment within your organization for the vision, its principles and its five foundational commitments using these implementation and communication [resources](#).
2. **Identify** areas of common ground as well as 'push areas' with CTE Without Limits and your state vision for CTE, organizational strategic plan, and other guiding documents.
3. **Educate** stakeholders inside and outside of your organization about the vision and how they can contribute to its realization using [ready-made resources](#).
4. **Share** out and attend the summer [lunch and learn series](#) as a starting point for deeper understanding and areas of action for each

## Engagement Activities

### Presentations:

- *New Skills ready network* Executive's Session
- *New Skills ready network* Spring Convening
- *New Skills ready network* Data Pre-Conference
- Career Development Coalition National Meeting
- Bloomberg Philanthropies Funders Collaborative
- National Center for College and Career Transitions (NC3T) Podcast
- National Center for Homeless Education Webinar
- CTE Opportunity Gap Workshop, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
- Beyond the Numbers: Design Principles for Reporting CTE Data, AACC
- Federal Policy Update, National Association for Career & Technical Education Information (NACTEI) National Perkins Leadership Conference
- New State Director Institute Workshop, Advance CTE
- Coalition for Workforce Development through CTE, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Workforce Education Division Retreat
- EdEquityVA Webinar Series - Equity in CTE Programs, Virginia Department of Education
- Communicating CTE, Pennsylvania ACTE Conference
- Supporting Career and Technical Education Access and Success for Learners Experiencing Homelessness Webinar, National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) and Advance CTE

### Virtual Events Attended:

- Credential Engine Monthly State Policy Partners Meeting
- National Advisory Board for Credentials As You Go Meeting
- National Career Pathways Partnerships Advisory Board
- Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship Partner Meeting
- College in High School Alliance Steering Committee Meeting
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Pathways Partner Engagement Session
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions: The Collaborative Capacity Building Institute
- WE ARE STEM and CTE Partners Meeting
- Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Board Meeting
- FY 2022 Budget Request for the Department of Education Hearing, House Appropriations Subcommittee
- Title IV-A Coalition Meeting
- WIOA Reauthorization: Creating Opportunities for Youth Employment Hearing, House Education and Labor Subcommittee
- Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Employment Pathways for Dislocated Workers, House Education and Labor Subcommittee

- Polling Data Review On Biden's First 100 Days, American Continental Group (ACG)

Partners Engaged:

- AACC
- ACG
- ACTE
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Avenue Scholars
- CLASP
- CEF
- Center for American Progress
- Connect Ed
- Credential Engine
- Delivery Associates
- Education Northwest
- Education Trust
- Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor
- EntreEd
- ESG
- First Robotics
- JFF
- NACTEI
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
- National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- National Association Workforce Boards
- National Center for Supply Chain Automation
- National Governors Association
- National Institute for Cybersecurity Education
- National Restaurant Association
- National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation
- National Skills Coalition
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transitions
- NCHE
- New America
- NOCTI
- OCTAE, U.S. Department of Education
- Pathways to Adult Success (Johns Hopkins University Everyone Graduates Center)
- PDK
- ReadyCT
- SME
- Southern Regional Education Board
- The Woolsey Group
- unMudl
- University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Vivayic
- Walton Family Foundation
- Wonder: Strategies for Good

“ We need to spend the time focusing on making sure we better connect the individuals who are very diverse and have a lot of different backgrounds to make sure they can take up those jobs that are coming.

# WITHOUT LIMITS

A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education

-DR. NICOLE SMITH  
CHIEF ECONOMIST  
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER  
ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

**ADVANCE** >> CTE  
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work



**Principle 3:** Each learner skillfully navigates their own career journey

