

Welcome to Advance CTE's new monthly newsletter - CTEWorks - where you will receive the latest information, resources and tools around key topic areas. Additionally, each month we'll feature a short interview with an Advance CTE staff member on the topic area. You are receiving this newsletter because you have signed up to receive information from **Advance CTE**.

This month, we are digging into equity and Career Technical Education (CTE). CTE can be a powerful tool for closing achievement and opportunity gaps that have long plagued education and the labor market throughout the country. High-quality CTE programs have been proven to position learners for success. Learners who access these programs go on to earn industry-recognized credentials of value, attain postsecondary certificates and degrees, and contribute to the workforce in high-wage and high-skilled career fields. This month, CTEWorks features resources and policy updates that promote equitable access to high-quality CTE programs for non-traditional learners and learners from historically marginalized communities.

Resources



Making Good on the Promise

The Making Good on the Promise series confronts the negative aspects of CTE's legacy and defines the key challenges learners face today, providing promising solutions to help CTE leaders close equity gaps in CTE. The series examines how states can leverage data to identify and address equity gaps, rebuild trust with historically underserved communities, expand access to high-quality CTE for each and every learner, and build systems to ensure learner success.

Advance CTE Resources:

- Webinar: CTE Forward: What Learners Most Need during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Blog: Education, Training and Skill Development to Support an Equitable Recovery
- Blog: CTE's Vital Role in the Economic Recovery: Leaving No American Behind

Partner Resources:

- Guide/Tool: College Promise Campaign Designing Equitable Programs
- Report: <u>JFF Growing Equity and Diversity Through Apprenticeship</u>
- Report: MDRC Practitioner Perspectives on Equity in Career and Technical Education
- Report: MDRC How Community Colleges are Advancing Equity in CTE

Visit the Learning that Works Resource Center

New Video to Make the Case for CTE



As our nation simultaneously continues to fight the pandemic and also begins to respond to the economic downturn that has harmed so many businesses and families, ensuring that equitable access to CTE is part of the solution is a message **every** policymaker needs to hear. Use this video to make the case for CTE to policymakers and other key stakeholders.

Learn More

State Policies Addressing Equity

Colorado

The <u>SB20-095</u> bill. This bill instructs the community college system to provide information for parents of students grade 6-8 across the state regarding benefits of concurrent enrollment in grades 9-12. Read the full text of the bill <u>here</u>.

New Mexico

The <u>HB92</u> bill. HB92 awards grants to public postsecondary educational institutions and tribal colleges in partnership with one or more local school districts or charter schools. The institutions will implement programs designed to increase diversity in the teacher workforce, fill high-need teaching positions and include both academic coursework and a guided apprenticeship. Read the full text of the bill <u>here</u>.

Get to Know Advance CTE!



Director at Advance CTE. This month we asked Kimberly about Advance CTE's work in the equity space. Read a blog with the full interview here.

Q. What are a few organizational steps Advance CTE has taken to promote equity?

A. Our organization has not always prioritized equity. It was just a few years ago - in 2018 - that we began to make the shift to position equity as foundational to our work. We knew we had to approach this work with humility, acknowledging that we had a lot of learning, listening and growing to do. To help with this, we launched an Equity Kitchen Cabinet composed of Advance CTE members and a National Committee on Equity that included representatives of national organizations leading civil rights and equity in education work, to serve as mentors and thought partners. Both groups informed our Board-approved statement on equity.

As a leader, I always strive to have our organization model what we hope to see in states. After listening and learning from our partners over the course of the year, I knew we had to turn the equity work inward, examining Advance CTE's organizational culture and processes. Through a year-long grant from the Associated Black Charities (ABC) our staff participated in three, daylong trainings, our leadership received monthly coaching sessions from an equity expert. We conducted an internal equity audit and chose to focus our efforts this first year to revise our recruitment and hiring practices and evaluation system. This grant gave us the skills and confidence to release this statement in June of this year, which outlines a set of commitments that we are working to live up to. As the ABC grant just ended, we are investing our organizational resources to extend this internal work with our next year's priorities being: building equity into our onboarding curriculum for all new staff; three more, full-day staff trainings; establishing a set of core values; standing up a diversity, equity and inclusion advisory group and more.

Read the full blog here.









