Press contact: Katie Fitzgerald
kfitzgerald@careertech.org or 301-588-9630

Program press contact:

**Como Park Senior High School Honored with National Excellence in Action Award**

**April 9, 2019 – [Saint Paul, MN] –** Today, the Academy of Finance at Como Park Senior High School received the prestigious Excellence in Action award, which recognizes the best Career Technical Education (CTE) programs of study across the nation. The Academy of Finance was one of eight programs selected as an [Excellence in Action](https://careertech.org/excellence-action-award) award winner based on its track record of providing clear pathways into college and careers, rigorous academic and technical coursework, strong partnerships with education and industry leaders, and meaningful work-based learning experiences that offer opportunities for career exploration and subject-matter mastery.

“The Academy of Finance allows learners from diverse backgrounds to take a rigorous program of study, earn college credits, and become young professionals through mentoring and internship partnerships with businesses and community partners,” said Hannah Chan “We're so proud of our students and what they're accomplishing.”

Como Park Senior High School’s Academy of Finance received the award in the Business Management & Administration Career Cluster® from Advance CTE as a result of their commitment to prepare learners, who are majority low-income and minority, for careers in the field of finance. Last year, 90 percent of learners participated in work-based learning opportunities. In addition, learners can obtain up to 16 college credits and graduate high school with a business certificate from Saint Paul College. Representatives accepted the honor at an award ceremony as part of the Advance CTE Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C.

“The programs of study that we are honoring today all share a steadfast commitment to the highest expectations for CTE," said Kimberly Green, Executive Director of Advance CTE. "This dedication to quality and equity ensures each learner has access to opportunities that prepare them for future success in their education and career of their choice. Today's honorees serve as national models of what high-quality CTE looks like and can achieve."

Printable profiles of each winner are available on Advance CTE’s [website](https://careertech.org/excellence-action-2019).

###

[**About Advance CTE**](http://www.careertech.org/)

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 supports visionary state leadership, cultivates best practices and speaks with a collective voice on national policy to promote academic and technical excellence that ensures a career-ready workforce.