



Career Technical Education (CTE) is a proven strategy that expands options for learners, empowers them to choose a meaningful and sustainable career, and prepares them with real-world skills for success in college and careers. Through hands-on learning, engagement with industry experts and rigorous academic and career-focused coursework, CTE is learning that works for Connecticut’s students – and its economy.

CTE Works for Learners in Connecticut

CTE Enrollment¹

106,218

High School

71,413

Postsecondary

High School Graduation

87%

Connecticut Average²

99.6%

CTE Concentrators³

Outcomes for Learners in Connecticut⁴

43%

high school CTE graduates enrolling in college, enlisting in the military or working within six months

56%

postsecondary CTE students staying enrolled and/or transferring

15%

postsecondary CTE students earning a credential, certificate or degree

78%

postsecondary CTE graduates placed in careers or further training within six months

- Fun fact: In 2014, Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy launched an early college high school program called Connecticut Early College Opportunity (CT-ECO). The program, modeled after New York City’s P-TECH, uses an integrated curriculum, industry partnerships and work-based learning to provide enriching, real-world learning experiences that culminate in a postsecondary credential.⁵

CTE Works for Connecticut’s Economy

- Middle-skill jobs – those requiring some postsecondary education and training, but not a Bachelor’s degree – account for 48 percent of Connecticut’s labor market.
- However, only 38 percent of workers in Connecticut are qualified to fill these middle-skill jobs,⁷ leading to a skills gap that CTE can help address.
- In total, 16,478 associate’s degrees or certificates were awarded in Connecticut in 2015 – about 31 percent of all postsecondary degrees and certificates.⁸



In Connecticut, the top middle-skill occupations with the highest projected job openings are in the Health Science and Manufacturing Career Clusters.⁶



¹ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer for the 2016-17 school year.
<https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/CTEParticipant>

² U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.
https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2014-15.asp

³ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer for the 2016-17 school year.
<https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/Performance>

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ <http://portal.ct.gov/en/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2014/11-2014/Gov-Malloy-Announces-Two-New-Early-College-Programs-in-Eastern-Connecticut>

⁶ Based on Advance CTE's analysis of fastest-growing occupations by state. This represents occupations with high annual projected job openings that requires an associate's degree and provide an average wage of at least \$34,760. Retrieved from
https://www.careerinfonet.org/select_state.asp?id=11&nodeid=12&next=state1

⁷ National Skills Coalition. (2017). *State Middle Skills Fact Sheets*. <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/state-policy/states>

⁸ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. Advance CTE's analysis of completions component. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>