

QUICK UPDATES

Upcoming Advance CTE and Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings

Advance CTE

- June 26, 2019, 3-4 p.m. ET – Conference call.

The Center to Advance CTE

- June 26, 2019, 4-5 p.m. ET – Conference call

State CTE Director Changes

- Puerto Rico has installed a new State CTE Director, Francisco Martinez Oronoz. He has been with the agency for eight weeks, and is now responsible for the island's CTE portfolio.
- Wyoming named Michelle Aldrich as State Director in March. Aldrich comes from the local level, where she taught for many years.
- DC has named Richard Kincaid to fill its vacant State Director position. Richard had served as the interim director since October.
- In March, Maryland's Lynne Gilli notified Advance CTE that she plans to retire in late May or early June after many decades working in the state's CTE office.
- As of March, there are 2 vacant State Director positions. Any state with an asterisk has been vacant for nine months or longer:
 - CA
 - NH

Priority: Develop internal PROCESSES and PROTOCOLS to ensure a strong and sustainable organization

Finance Update:

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 106% of budgeted income
Expended 63% of budgeted expenses

Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 148% of budgeted income
Expended 67% of budgeted expenses

Fundraising : Advance CTE is currently pursuing a variety of federal, corporate and foundation contacts to discuss potential grants and contracts. Below is a chart explaining this month's engagement with various development opportunities.

Grant/Proposal/ Contract	Organization /Partner	Engagement in Past Month	Status
Strategies for Recruiting Students into CTE	Siemens Foundation	This work is underway. See an update below.	Ongoing
New Skills for Youth	JP Morgan Chase	This work is underway. See an update below. Staff have continued discussions with the funders and the other project partners (CCSSO and ESG) about a NSFY 2.0 after the current grant ends in December 2019. We have been given very positive signals from JPMC that additional funding will be coming but the structure of the work is still to be determined. Our staff attended the Skills at Work announcement in New York City this month. Our JPMC contact will be presenting at our Spring meeting.	Ongoing
Postsecondary program quality	Joyce Foundation	A research brief on credit for prior learning is scheduled to be released in April, with an accompanying webinar, which is part of a broader dissemination strategy currently underway. Our work with Colorado and Illinois has continued and, in the case of Illinois in particular, is aligning with support for Perkins V implementation.	Ongoing
Career Clusters & Perkins Implementation	Gates Foundation	With the supplemental approved in February 2019, our work is well underway on a number of core elements of this grant including: intensive technical assistance support for three states (IN, NY and WA); planning for the April launch of our first Shared Solutions Workgroup; and the Tier 2 RPF for invited states to apply to reach coaching support. This spring, planning will begin for the next round of Perkins implementation meetings, the peer review process and the Career Clusters revision. Our program officer will be presenting at our upcoming Spring meeting.	Ongoing
Partnership for Advancing Youth Apprenticeship	New America (Siemens, Ballmer Group, JPMorgan Chase)	The work is ongoing and we have just submitted our invoice for our second payment of \$50,000. In March, we participated in the PAYA convening and will be turning out attention to reviewing applications for the grant opportunity (which received over 200 submissions).	Ongoing
New Skills for Youth – Innovation Sites	JPMorgan Chase	This work is underway. See update below.	Ongoing
Perkins implementation	Joyce Foundation	Upon request, we submitted a \$300,000 grant proposal to Joyce Foundation to support Perkins implementation, with a focus on their priority states to complement/align with the Gates funding. We are waiting for approval in April. Our potential program officer will be presenting at our upcoming Spring meeting.	Pending

Membership Update

Membership Update: In March, Advance CTE received 12 new memberships – one new State Member, one replacement State Member, two Associate-State; six Associate-Nonstate members and one organizational member representing three individuals.

Total membership as of March 31, 2019: **613** individuals

- State Membership*: 56 states (representing 56 State Directors and 197 state members)
- Associate, State: 17
- Associate, Non-state: 132
- Organizational: 47 organizations (representing 211 individuals)

Membership Audit: Staff completed the annual audit of the membership systems (inclusive of our database, email lists and financial records).

Overall, the audit revealed a known weakness with our current system. Our membership database, which also includes our meeting registration forms, allows users to update their information at any time, including their email address. However, we are not notified of changes when they happen. As such, our email lists, which use different platforms, can unknowingly become out of date. Other issues arose due to training gaps among staff, and these issues are being corrected. At the end of each audit, staff also right-size the overall membership numbers to ensure accurate reporting. As such, the numbers displayed above have been reduced by 8, as there were a few individuals being counted who had been cancelled for nonpayment.

The error rate is as follows and disaggregated by membership type:

State Director:

- Database: 0% error rate
- Email lists: 10%

State Members and individual Associate, State members:

- Database: 2% error rate
- Email lists: 13%
- Financial system: 6%

Associate, Nonstate members:

- Database: 5%
- Email lists: 15%
- Financial system: 2%

Meetings/Events

Event Name	Date	Total Participants	Total Participating State Directors	% of Participation Goal (if applicable)
2019 Advance CTE Spring Meeting	4/8-4/10/19	273	43	141%

2019 Spring Meeting: We've had a phenomenal response to our Spring Meeting registration and sponsorships. We have officially "sold out". We ended registration at 141% of our target, and with 182% of our: sponsorship target.

The meeting's agenda is being developed around the theme of "Be Bold," which is a connection to our Regional Implementation Meetings. Here is a peek into the public agenda, which will be released on Monday, March 4. On April 8, we will focus around creating bold goals for your state CTE system. Tuesday, April 9 will celebrate and highlight bold action and Wednesday, April 10 will explore bold results and debut Advance CTE's latest 50-state report looking at CTE data systems.

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

Federal Advocacy Plan:

In March, Advance CTE targeted its advocacy efforts around the Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020) appropriations process. In addition, Higher Education Act reauthorization discussions are heating up. During March, Advance CTE engaged with over 30 offices on appropriations, the campaign to [double the investment in CTE](#), and/or the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

Perkins: As members continue to dig into the provisions in Perkins V and begin four-year state plan development, we will continue to provide on-demand technical assistance to states. In addition, Advance CTE continues to work with partners to present on Perkins V and provide accurate information on the law. The "Perkins V resource roundup" continues to be a successful avenue to communicate about connections between our resources and Perkins V. We released two editions in March: "[Perkins V: How can the comprehensive local needs assessment drive improvement?](#)" and "[Perkins V: How can states use this opportunity to communicate about CTE?](#)"

Appropriations: Appropriations season kicked into high gear in March with the release of the President's budget request for FY2020 on March 11 (and additional analysis can be found in this [blog post](#)). The proposal includes a 12.5 percent cut overall for the U.S. Department of Education and a 9.7 percent cut overall for the U.S. Department of Labor. Investments in the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) were proposed as follows:

- CTE State Grants: proposed level funding for the Perkins Basic State Grants at the amount provided by Congress in FY19. The President's budget also includes the recommendation that Congress authorize changes to increase the fees collected for H-1B visas and redirect 15 percent of that revenue to provide an increase in funding for CTE State Grants. However, we are still examining this proposal and at this point, it is unclear if this would be a practical way to ensure more resources for CTE State Grants and how much funding could be realized.

- National Programs: proposed increase of \$12.58 million above the amount provided by Congress in FY19 to support the new Innovation and Modernization grants authorized under Perkins V.

Advance CTE attended the briefings and hearings related to this proposal and will continue to advocate for Congress to make a strong down payment on the goal of doubling the federal investment made in Perkins in FY2018 by FY2024. Advance CTE and ACTE have partnered on numerous appropriations meetings with staff for key Congressional appropriators and have also made numerous requests to individual offices regarding this request. In addition, the House Dear Colleague letter requesting strong funding for CTE garnered 155 signatures from Representatives of both parties.

In addition, Advance has supported efforts to raise the spending caps put in place by the Budget Control Act to avoid across-the-board cuts to all programs as well as efforts to support other programs that support CTE efforts, such as Title IV-A and Title II of ESSA, and other initiatives that could include provisions favorable to CTE, such as efforts to include investments in CTE in an infrastructure package.

Campaign to Double the Investment in CTE : The campaign to double the federal investment in CTE has 96 supporters as of this writing, representing all 16 Career Clusters[®] across 24 states. Advance CTE has started a bi-monthly newsletter and posts blogs regularly to the ISupportCTE.org website. The Spring Meeting will also prominently feature the campaign and Advance CTE will continue to engage members and partners on the campaign.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- Advance CTE is continuing to examine the implementation of WIOA across states to determine how WIOA implementation aligns with efforts to advance CTE.
- Advance CTE is continuing to analyze the revised WIOA state plans.
- Resources related to understanding the implications and opportunities for implementation of WIOA continue to be added to the Learning that Works Resource Center.

Higher Education Act (HEA)

- Advance CTE supported four higher education bills that were reintroduced in Congress in March:
 - The Making Education Affordable and Accessible Act, which would expand access to high-quality dual-enrollment programs;
 - The Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals Act (PREP Act), which would allow the teacher preparation provisions of HEA to apply to CTE;
 - The Jumpstart Our Businesses by Supporting Students Act (JOBS Act), which would allow Pell Grants to support short-term programs and
 - The College Transparency Act, which would allow for program-level data on postsecondary programs to become available, among other key provisions.
- Advance CTE proposed an update to the organization's HEA reauthorization recommendations to include expanding Pell Grant eligibility to incarcerated individuals, to be voted on by the Board in April.
- Advance CTE is continuing to monitor what the 116th Congress will mean for HEA reauthorization by attending briefings, hearings, webinars, and coalition meetings to gather information and adjust our strategy.

Congressional Offices Engaged in March 2019:

- Jake Baker, Sen. Alexander (R-TN)
- Samuel Weinstock, Sen. Warren (D-MA)
- Conor Sheehey, Sen. Scott (R-SC)
- Allison Feikes, Sen. Braun (R-IN)

- Brian Moulton, Sen. Baldwin (D-WI)
- Andi Rooney, Sen. Schatz (D-HI)
- Erin Anhalt, Sen. Shaheen (D-NH)
- Rebecca Howard, Sen. Jones (D-AL)
- Michael Ciamarra, Sen. Shelby (R-AL)
- Adam Wek, Sen. Thune (R-SD)
- Karishma Merchant, Sen. Kaine (D-VA)
- Megan Harrington, Sen. Portman (R-OH)
- Meghan Dorn, Sen. Graham (R-SC)
- TJ Lucas, Sen. Machin (D-WV)
- JT Jezierski, Sen. Capito (R-WV)
- Mark Ritacco, Sen. Murphy (D-CT)
- Cassie Leonard, Sen. Kennedy (R-LA)
- Katherine McClelland, Rep. Scott (D-VA)
- Liz Albertine/Robin Juliano, Rep. DeLauro (D-CT)
- Nick Rockwell, Rep. Thompson (R-PA)
- Kerry McKittrick, Rep. Langevin (D-RI)
- Brian Kaissi, Rep. Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)
- Kelvin Lum, Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA)
- Leighton Huch/Steffanie Bezruki, Rep. Bustos (D-IL)
- Camille Moore, Rep. Brown (D-MD)
- Jose Miranda, Rep. Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
- Emma Mehrabi, Rep. Lee (D-CA)
- Kana Smith, Rep. Case (D-HI)

State Policy Update

New Skills for Youth: Staff continue to coordinate with other project team members to manage the work of the grant, which in March included conversations the upcoming NSFY convening, which will take place in May. Additionally, staff reviewed and prepared for the semi-annual state stocktakes for all ten NSFY states.

NSFY Snapshots: The latest round of [New Skills for Youth state snapshots](#) was released on March 26. The snapshots feature up to three strategies each state employed in the 2018 calendar year and discuss lessons learned and early evidence of impact from their work. Accompanying the snapshots was an executive summary document describing common themes across the 10 NSFY states. In particular, the executive summary demonstrates early successes the states had in advancing equity and access to high-quality career pathways. Now that the 2018 snapshots have been published, Advance CTE will begin planning the final round, which will cover all of the work completed since the beginning of the initiative.

JPMC Innovation Sites Snapshots: Staff spent March traveling to two additional New Skills for Youth sites – Dallas and New Orleans – learning about the work happening there to improve program quality, access and work-based learning opportunities for learners. Staff also continued interviewing stakeholders at international sites, including South Africa and the UK. In April, staff will interview stakeholders in SE Asia, India and China. Staff have also begun working with a contract to draft snapshots or each of the sites, which will be released this summer.

Joyce Foundation – Postsecondary Program Approval: Advance CTE staff continued to work with leaders in Colorado and Illinois on improving postsecondary program quality. In March, staff turned

their attention to dissemination of the work, and worked with a contractor to develop a one-pager highlighting Advance CTE's postsecondary initiatives. A blog series will also be kicked off in April, starting with a blog post from Colorado's State CTE Director, Sarah Heath, about her work with the Policy Benchmark Tool. Staff also prepared for the April release of the report on credit for prior learning.

Equity Initiative: The equity initiative continues to be a priority for Advance CTE. In March, the partner committee met once again for a webinar, where participants discussed research topics for the new CTE Research Network, headed by AIR, as well as the forthcoming report from the Council of State Governments on CTE and workforce development in state juvenile justice systems. In April, members of the partner committee and member kitchen cabinet will serve as facilitators for a series of breakouts on equity topics at Advance CTE's Spring Meeting. Advance CTE is in the process of developing the fourth equity brief in the [Making Good on the Promise](#) series. The fourth equity brief will map out steps state leaders can take to close opportunity gaps in CTE, and will be released this summer.

State of CTE: Data Collection and Use: Advance CTE is preparing a "soft launch" of this year's state of CTE report at the 2019 Advance CTE Spring Meeting with a general session panel and a series of concurrent breakout sessions. The full report will be officially released to the public on April 16. This report will be the starting point for a new initiative on CTE data quality, and Advance CTE staff are designing supplemental tools and resources – including a module for the new state director leadership program, a series of indicator briefs, and a policy benchmark tool – to help State CTE Directors improve CTE data quality and effectiveness in their states.

Policy Benchmark Tool – Dual Enrollment and Articulation: Advance CTE is in the process of developing a new policy benchmark tool. The tool, which is slated to come out in November 2019, will potentially focus on dual/concurrent enrollment, articulation and transfer. Currently, Advance CTE is conducting a literature review on dual/concurrent enrollment, articulation and transfer and interviewing national partners to inform the development of the tool.

Oregon Perkins V Planning: Advance CTE, in partnership with ACTE, kicked off the first phase of work facilitating Oregon's state Perkins V plan process. In March, staff held a virtual kickoff call with state leadership, and designed an interactive 1.5 day session with Oregon state and regional staff, which will take place in mid-April. These activities, along with a stakeholder survey designed by ACTE, and extensive research about the state's CTE system and outcomes, will inform priorities and action planning going forward.

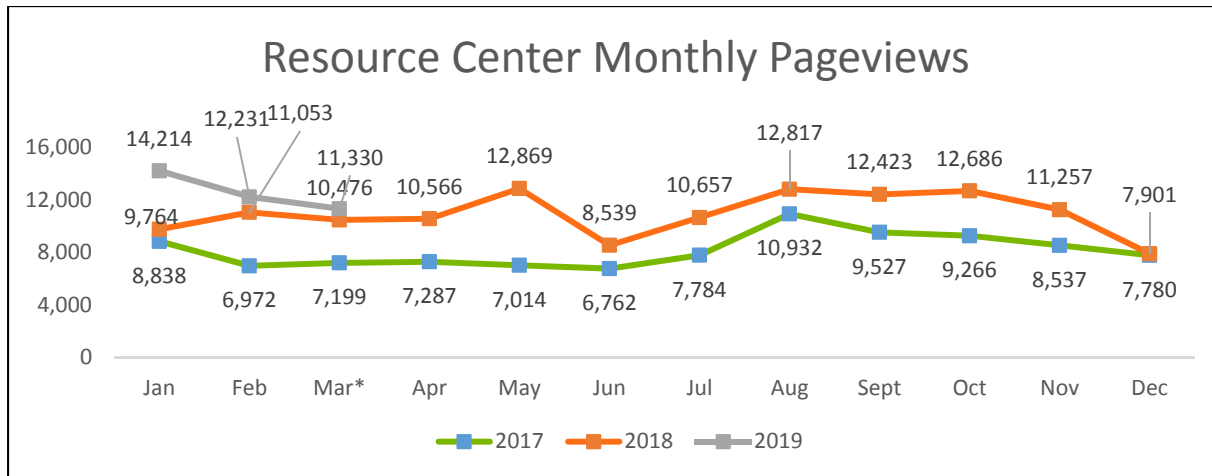
Postsecondary Strategy: Advance CTE staff are progressing through the activities proposed in the organization's postsecondary strategy. Staff continues to work with the Joyce Foundation to create a new resource related to credit for prior learning, to be released in April, and a policy benchmark tool on dual enrollment articulation and transfer.

Knowledge Management Strategy: Advance CTE continues to cultivate a culture of knowledge sharing and management across the team. In addition to facilitating regular staff meeting deep dives, staff have been documenting research, presentations and other information related to their work for access across the team. Additionally, Advance CTE is developing a "CTE Research Warehouse" that includes facts and research across a variety of issues areas. The goal is to make this document available to members later this year to support evidence-based decision making.

Making Career Readiness Count: The third edition of the [Making Career Readiness Count report](#) – which analyzes state and federal accountability systems to document how states are measuring career readiness – was released on March 19. The report found that the number of states counting career

readiness in their accountability systems more than doubled since 2014, from 17 to 40. While the previous two versions of the report were written in partnership with Achieve, the third edition was published through the New Skills for Youth initiative in partnership with Achieve, Education Strategy Group and the Council of Chief State School Officers.

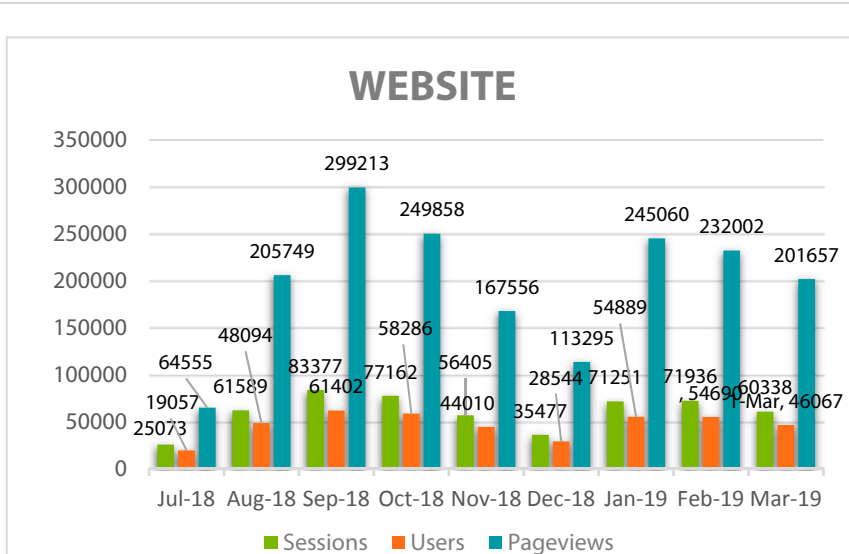
Resource Center: The Resource Center sustained a total of 11,330 hits for the month of March. The top two resources for this month include the American Institute for Research’s 50 state scan of CTE teacher licensure policies, followed by Advance CTE’s Making Career Readiness Count 3.0. The most visited topic page was Work-based Learning, followed by Credentials and Assessments. The least viewed topic pages were Employer Engagement and Cross-Sector Strategies and Governance (formerly Systems Alignment).



*Reported data for March 2019 include website traffic through March 27, 2019

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

MARCH 2019 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

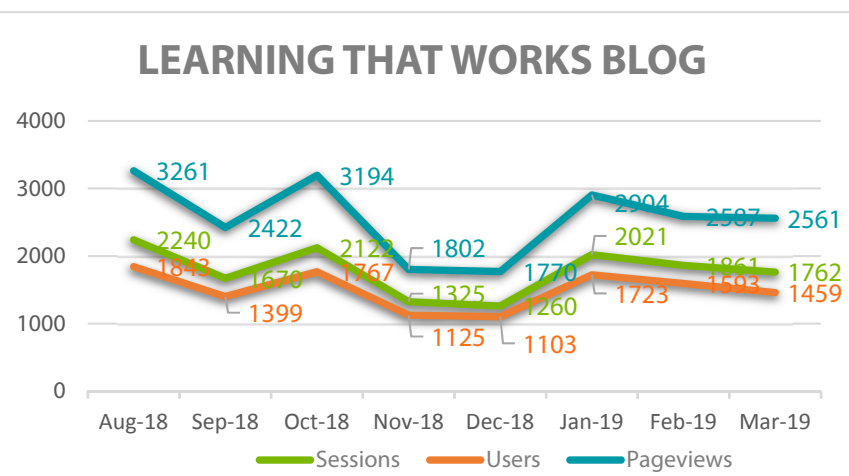


Major Organizational Releases/Initiatives

- Resource Center (1973)
- Perkins (1607)
- Spring Meeting (940)

Acquisition of site users

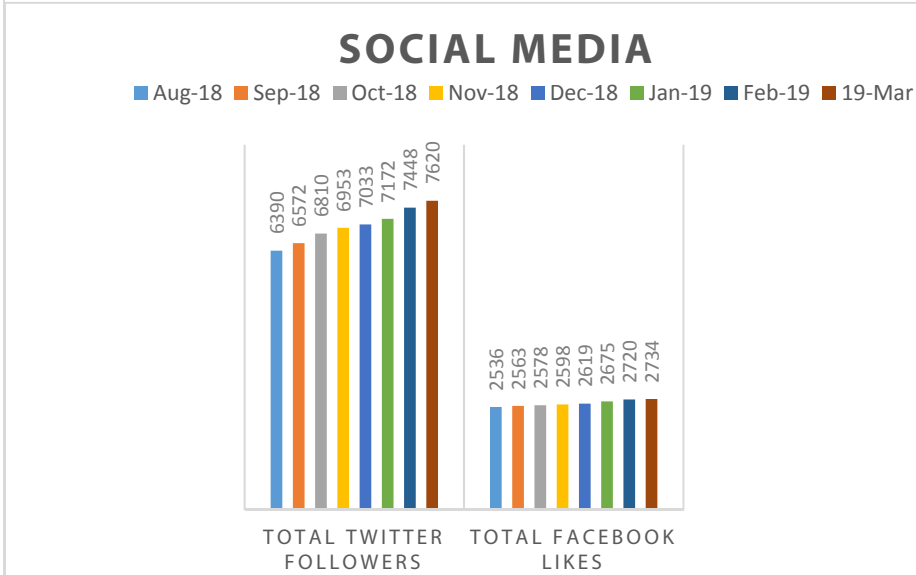
- Organic search (48.9%)
- Direct (38.3%)
- Referral (12.1%)
- Social (.7%)



23 Blog Posts Published

Most visited blogs:

- How to Prepare for the Future of Work
- The Number of States Counting Career Readiness Has More than Doubled Since 2014
- Opening Eyes and Opening Doors to College and Career



Facebook: +14

Twitter: +172

Media: We responded to two media requests this month, one from GateHouse Media and another from Education Week. Additionally, Advance CTE was mentioned in an [article](#) in the Winchester Start about one of their students speaking on a panel at the upcoming Advance CTE Spring Meeting.

Strategies for Attracting Students to High-Quality CTE (Siemens Grant): All grantees in cohort two (ND, CO, ID) submitted their final reports to be reviewed by staff after the Advance CTE Spring Meeting.

Additionally, staff has continued working with cohort three, which includes five states (AR, GA, IA, SC and UT) to put in place their contracts and begin to implement their proposed work plans. Each grantee will participate in monthly check-in calls and bi-monthly cross-state calls. Staff have been working to put in place a contract with a communications firm to help make the assets created under this grant more visible and easily accessible; the goal is for the work to be completed by summer 2019.

Staff has delivered the Career Advising and Development Training, one of which took place in Arizona in March. The text two will take place in April in Oregon and Utah. The training will be delivered in 12 – 16 states through ASCA and ACTE state-wide chapters, as well as state CTE offices affiliated with the Siemens grant. Components of the training will be delivered virtually through ASCA’s online platform beginning in summer 2019.

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>PRESENTATIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to Benefit Convening, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC • ACTE National Policy Seminar, Arlington, VA • ACTE/ECMC Postsecondary Fellows Program, Washington, DC • Advancing Equity through Perkins V, Webinar, Hosted by South Carolina Technical College System • Area CTE Centers Briefing, Congressional CTE Caucus, Washington, DC • Leadership Forum - Perkins V, MBA Research Webinar • Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeships National Meeting, New America, Charleston, SC • National Association of Workforce Boards, Washington, DC • New Skills at Work Re-Launch Event, New York City, NY • States Network Webinar on CTE and Perkins V, Asia Society • Oregon Perkins V Virtual Kickoff, Webinar, Hosted by Advance CTE • Youth Diversion Webinar, Hosted by RTI on behalf of OCTAE
<p>EVENTS ATTENDED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeship Forward Collaborative quarterly meeting • Budget Briefing (FY20), U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC • Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce, Washington, DC • CAPAC Quarterly Meeting, ANSI, Washington, DC • Committee for Education Funding (CEF), Washington, DC • Competency-Based Education: Promising Policies and Practices for the Future of K-12 Education, American Youth Policy Forum, Washington, DC • <i>Evidence-Based Policy: Moving Beyond Data Dissemination to Increased Evidence Use</i>; Washington, DC, hosted by AYPF • HEA Reauthorization in the 116th Congress: Real Possibility or Mirage? Webinar, American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) • House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Hearing on Department of Education Budget Request for FY 2020, Washington, DC • Innovation in America's Workforce: The Crucial Role of Federal Investments, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce, Washington, DC • Jobs and Careers Coalition, Opportunity America, Washington, DC • Legislative Forum, Women in Government Relations, Washington, DC • Level Up Coalition Launch, Washington, DC • MSSC Board Meeting, Washington, DC • National Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations (NCC-CTSO), Reston, VA • National Policy Seminar, ACTE, Washington, DC • Next Steps Working Group Call, U.S. Department of Education • <i>NSFY Innovation Site Visit</i>, Dallas, Texas

- *NSFY Innovation Site Visit*, New Orleans, Louisiana
- NSFY Project Team Meeting, Washington, DC
- Perkins V Peer-to-Peer States Meeting, Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), Herndon, VA
- Preparing People to Reenter Society: The Role of Education Inside Prison-hosted by AEI in Washington, DC
- Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Hearing on Department of Education Budget Request for FY 2020, Washington, DC
- Sustaining Employer Partnerships for Students Long-Term Success Webinar, U.S. Department of Labor
- Title IV-A Coalition, Washington, DC

**OTHER
PARTNERS
ENGAGED**

- Achieve
- Achieving the Dream
- Association for Career and Technical Education
- American Association of Community Colleges
- American Youth Policy Forum
- America's Promise Alliance
- Asia Society
- Aspen Institute
- Center for Law and Social Policy
- Council of Chief State School Officers
- Council of State Governments
- Data Quality Campaign
- Education Commission of the States
- Education Strategy Group
- Education Trust
- Gates Foundation
- Higher Learning Advocates
- Institute for Education Leadership
- JPMorgan Chase Foundation
- Jobs for the Future
- MBA Research
- National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
- National Skills Coalition
- National Urban League
- National Utility Contractors Association
- Office of Domestic Policy Council, White House
- Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship
- Texas Instruments
- Thomas B. Fordham Institute
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Labor
- Workforce Data Quality Campaign

Advance CTE Newsletter

Your voice from the nation's
capital



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NEW RESOURCES

Guide/Tool: [Auditing a State Career and Technical Education Program for Quality](#)

Guide/Tool: [High School Apprenticeships: A Guide For Starting Successful Programs](#)

Policy: [Wisconsin: Fox Valley Technical College Cultural Support Specialists](#)

Research/Report: [Wisconsin Technical College System System-wide Equity Report](#)

Dear Advance CTE Members,

This month, we've had a lot of exciting opportunities and releases! We released the third edition of *Making Career Readiness Count*, which was developed with Achieve, Education Strategy Group and the Council of Chief State School through the New Skills for Youth initiative. The report examines how states are measuring college and career readiness in their state and federal accountability systems. The number of states counting career readiness in their state or federal accountability systems has **more than doubled** since 2014 - from 17 to 40. Read the full report [here](#).

We also released the *New Skills for Youth 2018 Snapshots*, providing an overview of the accomplishments of each of the ten New Skills for Youth states over the past year. Read how each state is working to improve its career readiness system, with a focus on access and equity for each learner [here](#).

Additionally, Advance CTE is proud to be part of a new coalition, Level Up, launched this month. The coalition, made up of state and national partners, is aiming is to significantly increase the numbers of high school learners prepared for and successfully transitioning to postsecondary education and training programs. The coalition launched on March 8, read more on our blog [here](#).

Lastly, let's keep up the momentum of the [Double the Investment in CTE](#) campaign! Check out a new section of the newsletter highlighting the states with the most employers signed on so far. We ask that you continue to make targeted outreach to employers to sign on and spread the word with your networks. Get all the resources you need to do outreach [here](#).

I look forward to seeing you next month at the 2019 Spring Meeting!

Sincerely,

Member Updates

See You at the Spring Meeting!

Registration is officially closed for the 2019 Spring Meeting. We are excited to see so many of our members next month. Be sure to check out the [online agenda](#) to choose your sessions and plan for a successful meeting!

New State CTE Directors

Advance CTE welcomes Michelle Aldrich of **Wyoming** and Francisco Martinez Oronoz of **Puerto Rico** as new State CTE Directors.

View from the Hill

In March, the [President's Fiscal Year 2020 budget proposal](#) was released, officially kicking off the congressional appropriations process. For Perkins CTE State Grants, the proposal included level funding at the amount provided by Congress in FY19. Additionally, it included a recommendation that Congress authorize changes to increase the fees collected for H-1B visas and redirect 15 percent of that revenue to provide an increase in funding for CTE State Grants. It also proposed to increase National Programs by \$12.58 million above the amount provided by Congress in FY19 to support the new Innovation and Modernization grants authorized under Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). Advance CTE has been meeting with staff for congressional appropriators to make the case for investing in CTE State Grants and programs that support CTE-related efforts. Our efforts to share information on Perkins V continued in March with two new editions to our Perkins V newsletter on [how can states use this opportunity to communicate about CTE?](#) and [how can the comprehensive local needs assessment drive improvement?](#)

We also continued to engage with Congress around the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA). In March, four bills that we supported were reintroduced: the Making Education Affordable and Accessible Act, which would expand access to high-quality dual-enrollment programs, the Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals Act (PREP Act), which would allow the teacher preparation provisions of HEA to apply to CTE, the Jumpstart Our Businesses by Supporting Students Act (JOBS Act), which would allow Pell Grants to support short-term programs and the College Transparency Act, which would allow for program-level data on postsecondary programs to become available, among other key provisions.

State Policy Overview

On March 7, **Colorado** Governor Jared Polis signed [HB1008](#) into law, which amends the Building Excellent Schools Today Act to allow the public school capital construction board to provide grants to support CTE capital construction, which includes construction of public school facilities and equipment for CTE programs.

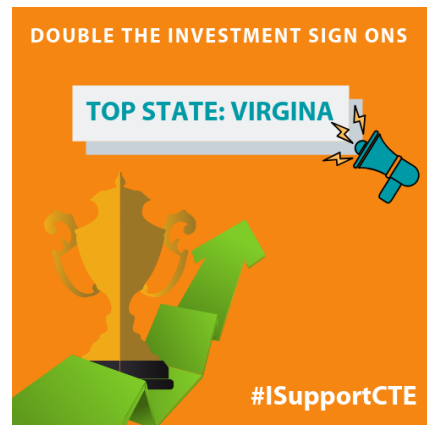
On March 5, in **Virginia**, [SB1434](#) was signed into law. The law directs the Virginia Board of Education to revise its CTE Work-based Learning Guide to expand opportunities for learners to earn credit for graduation through high-quality work-based learning experiences. The law directs the Board of Education to consult business and diverse stakeholders to inform its

revision of the guide.

For more updates on state CTE policy developments, check out Advance CTE's [state policy blog](#).

➤ Double the Investment

In February, the CTE community launched a campaign to double the federal investment in CTE! This is a shared campaign and we invite everyone to join us in asking employers to sign onto a statement that supports doubling the investment in CTE. The signatures collected from employers will be a critical component to building visibility and support for CTE with members of Congress.



In March, Advance CTE continued the [campaign](#) to double the federal investment in CTE. We issued the first campaign update, [Help Us Secure 10,000 Employer Signatures by April](#) and posted new blogs including, [The Importance of 1:2:7](#) and [Doubling the Investment in CTE Means Creating Opportunities](#). Our goal is to secure support for the campaign from 10,000 employers by April and **we need your help!** While 22 states and every Career Cluster® are represented in the list of signatures from employers, we still need more signatures! Virginia is currently taking the lead. Want to bump Virginia out of the top spot? Ask employers to [sign](#) on to support doubling the investment in CTE! Visit the [share page](#) to find sample Tweets, graphics, email blurbs and more to help you communicate about the campaign.

➤ Where We've Been

Advance CTE staff travels across the country to present, conduct workshops and provide technical assistance to states.

This month, staff:

- Attended New Skills at Work Re-Launch with JPMorgan Chase CEO, Jamie Dimon, hosted by JPMorgan Chase in **New York**;
- Attended the Level Up Coalition launch in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended the New Skills For Youth Project Team Meeting hosted by CCSO in **Washington, DC**;
- Presented to IEL's Education Policy Fellowship Program for the Washington Policy Seminar in **Washington, DC**;
- Presented on Perkins V at the Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeships National Meeting hosted by New America in **South Carolina**;
- Presented at the ACTE National Policy Seminar in **Virginia**;
- Presented at the ACTE ECMC Fellow Program in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended Preparing People to Reenter Society: The Role of Education Inside Prison- hosted by AEI in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended Competency-Based Education: Promising Policies and Practices for the Future of K-12 Education hosted by American Youth Policy Forum and iNACOL in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended the Committee for Education Funding Meeting in **Washington, DC**;



- Attended the National Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations Meeting in **Virginia**;
- Attended the Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce hosted by the National Skills Coalition in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended Perkins V Peer-to-Peer States Meeting hosted by CCSSO in **Virginia**;
- Attended the Budget Briefing hosted by the U.S. Department of Education in **Washington, DC**;
- Presented at the ACTE Board meeting in **Virginia**;
- Attended Innovation in America's Workforce: The Crucial Role of Federal Investments hosted by Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended the Legislative Forum hosted by Women in Government Relations in **Washington, DC**;
- Presented at the Ability to Benefit Convening hosted by the U.S. Department of Education in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended the Evidence-Based Policy: Moving Beyond Data Dissemination to Increase Evidence Use hosted by American Youth Policy Forum in **Washington, DC**;
- Presented at the Advancing Equity through Perkins V webinar hosted by the South Carolina Technical College System;
- Attended the MSSC Board meeting in **Washington, DC**;
- Attended New Skills for Youth Innovation Site Visits in **Texas** and **Louisiana**;
- Presented at the Empowering Students to Pursue their Career Goals hosted by Arizona School Counselors Association in **Arizona**;
- Attended ANSI's CAPAC meeting in **Washington, DC**; and
- Engaged with 29 Congressional Hill offices.



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