



The  
**Postsecondary**  
**STATE CAREER TECHNICAL**  
**EDUCATION LEADERS FELLOWSHIP**  
at **ADVANCE** >> CTE State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work sponsored by **ECMC**  
Foundation

## Background

State Career Technical Education (CTE) systems face the dual challenge of a growing shortage of postsecondary leaders and significant representational diversity gaps, particularly racial diversity. Postsecondary CTE leadership must reflect the 3.5 million learners it serves.

## Fellowship Purpose and Structure

The Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellowship at Advance CTE — Sponsored by ECMC Foundation strives to close racial representation gaps and remove equity barriers to career advancement for aspiring leaders historically underrepresented in state CTE leadership.

*"I am proud to have been a part of the Advance CTE Postsecondary Fellowship, where I engaged in one of the most dynamic and in-depth professional development programs in my career. Collaborating with fellow participants and industry experts provided me with a unique opportunity to contribute to discussions, share insights, and learn from the diverse perspectives within the fellowship. The Advance CTE Postsecondary Fellowship has been instrumental in honing my skills, expanding my network, and deepening my commitment to advancing equity within the field of Career and Technical Education."*

*Yolanda Flores, cohort 2*

Fellows will gain strategic, equity-minded leadership skills and build networks to address systemic inequities and advance high-quality, equitable state postsecondary CTE systems through:

- Interactive, in-depth virtual workshop with a curriculum rooted in quality, equity and collaboration
- Individualized coaching
- Organizational convenings and presentations
- Intentional spaces to build relationships with Fellows, national CTE leaders and the [ECMCF CTE Leadership Collaborative](#)
- Program stipend
- Completion of real-world fellowship project in their community

*"[The highlight of my Fellowship experience was] interacting with like-minded professionals across a wide spectrum of CTE roles." - Dr. Kristin Corkhill, cohort 1*





## Who Are Our Fellows?

The alums of the first two cohorts of the Fellowship are as diverse geographically as they are demographically with 19 states represented, with over 70% of each cohort representing multiple dimensions of equity historically underrepresented in CTE, including race and ethnicity, geography, sexual orientation, and gender identity. They are mid-career CTE professionals with a clear goal of postsecondary state leadership.

The Fellowship has proven to be effective in helping Fellows drive policy and systems change while also advancing in their career:

- Over 30% of the Fellows from cohort 1 have been accepted into doctoral programs and/or have received promotions or new positions.
- In Cohort 2 75% of the Fellows have met with leaders within their organization to advocate for policy and systems change to advance high-quality, equitable CTE.

Click [here](#) for information about previous Fellowship cohorts.

*"This was an amazing experience that propelled me into the next phase of my career. I have learned and grown so much through this process. Through the connection that I have made in this fellowship, I have the resources and support I need to truly excel in this field."*

*David Jackson, cohort 2*

## Lead Organizations

### About Advance CTE

Advance CTE 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.

### About ECMC Foundation

ECMC Foundation is a Los Angeles-based, nationally focused foundation whose mission is to improve higher education for career success among underserved populations through evidence-based innovation. It is one of several affiliates under the ECMC Group enterprise based in Minneapolis.

## Fellowship Contacts:

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