

QUICK UPDATES

Note: We are working with Delivery Associates to update Board reporting templates and communications, with the goal of streamline and bring it into alignment with our new strategic plan's three "E's". That work will be completed in the next month or so. In the meantime, we are using a modified version of the prior monthly Board update template.

Upcoming Advance CTE and The Center to Advance CTE Board Meetings (all times listed are in Eastern)

Please mark your calendars! All meetings will take place via Zoom unless otherwise specified.

September 28, 2021 – Advance CTE Board Meeting	2:00 – 4:00 p.m.	FY22 year-end, stocktake, strategy updates, new telework/remote work policy
September 28, 2021 – The Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	FY22 year-end, stocktake, strategy updates
November 9, 2021 – Joint Board Meeting	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Employment contract vote; Final Draft of the Revised National Career Clusters' Framework Prototype vote
January 26, 2022 – Advance CTE Board Meeting	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	990's, audit, & FY23 state dues determination
January 26, 2022 – The Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting	3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	990's, audit, & FY23 state dues determination
April Board Meetings TBD	TBD	Stocktake, strategy updates
June 29, 2022 – Advance CTE Board Meeting	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	FY23 Budget
June 29, 2022 – Center to Advance CTE Board Meeting	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	FY23 Budget

- **All times listed above are the eastern time zone**

Finance Update: These numbers represent the first month of FY22, July, which is 8% of the fiscal year. Both organizations are starting out FY22 in a very strong financial position. The carry forward of remaining grant funds from FY21 to FY22 has not been completed yet; therefore, The Center budget snapshot below does not reflect this income yet.

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot	Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 31% of budgeted income	Received 1% of budgeted income
Expended 4% of budgeted expenses	Expended 4% of budgeted expenses

Final close out of FY21 will be completed in August. The final FY21 actuals will be shared at the September Board Meeting. The annual audit for FY21 has been scheduled for early October.

Fundraising: Advance CTE is currently pursuing a variety of corporate and foundation contacts to discuss potential grants and contracts. Below is a chart explaining the organization’s ongoing grants and any major development activities from this month.

Grant/Proposal/ Contract	Organization /Partner	Status	Progress Since Last Board Update
Strategies for Recruiting Students into CTE	Siemens Foundation	Ongoing	Preparations continued for the announcement of the five states participating in grant-funded communications technical support, and the first cohort meeting will be conducted August 11. Staff completed the interview and selection process for new facilitators to deliver the updated career advising workshop, and candidates are in the process of being notified and on-boarded. Updates to the career advising workshop are in the final review phase, and an announcement of the workshop is scheduled for September. Presentations and submissions to state conferences to present the communications research continue.
New Skills ready network	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
CTE Without Limits, Career Clusters, CLNA/Perkins	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
Partnership for Advancing Youth Apprenticeship	New America (Siemens, Ballmer Group, JPMorgan Chase)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
NSFY Innovation Sites (Data Quality)	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
Equity	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	In July, we had a call with our program officer to discuss future funding opportunities. We were asked

			to submit a prospectus to lay out continued investments in our equity work for 2022-23 to be submitted in August.
Postsecondary Data Quality	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
Postsecondary CTE Fellows Program	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
NIDILRR	UMass Medical School	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
National Study on Community College Workforce Programs	Lumina Foundation (Opportunity America)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
College High School Alliance	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
Stimulus Coalition	Bloomberg, Annie E. Casey, Walton, Beacon Fund, Gates, Carnegie	Proposal approved	Advance CTE is partnering with JFF, Education Strategy Group, NGA, ExcelinEd and New America on a multi-funder, multi-year investment to help states and communities leverage stimulus funding to support high-quality and equitable career pathways. The group of funders approved a phase 1 planning grant, of which Advance CTE will be receiving \$60,000 for work through January 2022.
CTE Funding & CTE without borders	Walton Family Foundation	Proposal development	We are submitting a proposal to the Walton Family Foundation the first week of August to support projects around CTE funding models and CTE without borders. The overall timeline and budget are still being finalized.
American Student Assistance (ASA)		In active discussions	At the request of ASA, Advance CTE submitted a short proposal focused on work-based learning in May. We had a call with ASA in July and are awaiting next steps.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UPDATE

Membership Update:

- State Directors: 55
- State Team Members: 207
- Individual Associate State: 12
- Individual Associate Non-State: 55
- Organizational: 49 organizations, 178 individual organizational members

State CTE Directors:

- Stephen Schatz is the new State CTE Director in Hawaii.

Member Engagement & Professional Learning: Advance CTE held the third of five Lunch & Learn [sessions](#) on the Without Limits vision principles. The session featured three partners discussing their support of the vision and ways they may support states in implementing the vision. Attendees then moved into breakout rooms to discuss the principle further and to build connections between the vision and their work. Each Lunch & Learn recording can be viewed on the Advance CTE [YouTube channel](#). Advance CTE is measuring the impact of these Lunch & Learns by asking attendees at the start and end of each session to evaluate how much they know about the principle and how ready they feel to advance the principle in their work. This is displayed in the table below.

	<i>(Before) How much do you know about this principle? (4 pt.)</i>	<i>After this Lunch & Learn, how much do you know about this principle? (4 pt.)</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>	<i>(Before) How prepared do you feel to advance this principle in your work? (4 pt.)</i>	<i>After this Lunch & Learn, how prepared do you currently feel to advance this principle in your work? (4 pt.)</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>
Principle 1	2.35	3	27.66%	2.46	3.05	23.98%
Principle 2	2.51	2.91	15.94%	2.53	3.23	27.67%
Principle 3	2.41	3	24.48%	2.41	3.24	34.44%

Fall Meeting: Advance CTE launched Early Bird registration for the 2021 Fall Meeting, which will be held virtually on October 27 and 28. An early agenda is posted [online here](#).

Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellowship Program at Advance: CTE (the Fellowship): This month, Advance CTE made progress in finalizing the Fellowship’s curriculum in partnership with Education Strategy Group (ESG) and based on feedback from the national Advisory Committee. Advance CTE is prepared to begin recruitment of Fellows in August and will also reconvene the national Advisory Committee next month.

New State Director Institute: A new cohort the New State Director Institute will begin in the Fall. Planning and outreach to the eligible new State CTE Directors was conducted this month.

STATE AND FEDERAL CTE POLICY

Federal Advocacy Update: This month, Advance CTE has continued to advocate for increased funding for CTE through the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) appropriations bill. The House Appropriations Committee's Labor-HHS-Ed Subcommittee released its FY22 bill this month. It includes an increase of \$50 million for the Perkins Basic State Grant (\$30 million above what the President's May budget proposal recommended) for a total of \$1.38 billion. It also included \$100 million for a competitive grant program that would carry out evidence-based middle and high school CTE innovation programs. Additionally, it included language that names certain apprenticeship programs as eligible institutions under Perkins. Advance CTE has been working with Congressional staff and partner organizations to resolve concerns about this section- particularly the apprenticeship component. This includes correspondence with both House and Senate offices to increase awareness of the problematic apprenticeship component, as well as conversations with the Congressional office that added the provision. Staff also raised the issue with other partner organizations to increase support for the needed change.

Advance CTE has also been advocating for the inclusion of CTE and workforce development funding in an upcoming infrastructure bill. Over the course of July, the House Education and Labor Committee (with included speakers from the Senate and U.S. Department of Education) held a press conference on the importance of workforce investments, the House sent a letter on the same topic with 101 signers and the Senate with 13 signers. Despite this, Congressional leadership conveyed that workforce programs would not be included in the infrastructure bill. On August 1 the bill text was released without workforce components. Many members of Congress agreed to support the infrastructure bill if "social infrastructure" items are included in the upcoming reconciliation bill.

Also this month, Advance CTE was pleased to support the Securing Universal Communications Connectivity Fund to Ensure Students Success (SUCCESS) Act. This bill was introduced by Senators Ed Markey (D-MA) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), as well as Representative Grace Meng (D-NY). It would build on the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Emergency Connectivity Fund and provide schools and libraries with \$8 billion per year over five years to ensure students, staff and library patrons have access to the internet and internet-enabled devices. Additionally, Advance CTE supported the Opening Doors for Youth Act, introduced by House Education and Labor Committee Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA). This bill would help at-risk and opportunity youth gain their first employment opportunities and develop opportunities to successfully transition from school.

Advance CTE replied to a Federal Register on "Proposed Priorities and Definitions for the U.S. Department of Education" to reinforce areas of support, as well as suggestions to ensure that CTE programs are fully supported in these priorities.

State Technical Assistance:

- **Oregon:** As part of ongoing technical assistance for states in the Advancing Postsecondary CTE Data Quality Initiative, Advance CTE completed research for Oregon on how states are defining and measuring career readiness at the secondary and postsecondary level.
- **Kentucky:** Advance CTE is partnering with JFF to provide technical assistance to Kentucky through the College in High School Alliance. The kickoff call was held in July, with the focus on building an action plan to improve access to high-quality dual enrollment, including a focus on improving advising models.

- **Oklahoma:** Advance CTE is partnering with NACEP to provide technical assistance to Oklahoma through the College in High School Alliance. The kickoff call will be held in August, with the focus on building an action plan to improve access to high-quality concurrent enrollment opportunities.

Opportunity Gap Analysis Workshop: Earlier this month, Advance CTE opened registration for the inaugural [CTE opportunity gap analysis workshop](#) in September. Up to 30 participants will be selected to receive training and materials for examining gaps in their CTE data, conducting a root cause analysis, and developing an equity action plan

State Policy Update:

Advancing The Framework: The national project team prepared a prototype for presentation to the Advance CTE and Center to Advance CTE joint board meeting on August 5. The next stage of work is contingent upon the vote to move the prototype forward.

CTE Equity Index: The CTE Data Quality Workgroup met again this month to discuss the CTE Equity Index framework. The workgroup provided feedback on the draft design, which will be finalized for piloting next month. The Kentucky Center for Statistics, the Michigan Department of Education, and Nashville Metro Public Schools have all volunteered to pilot the index before it is released to the public.

Postsecondary Data Initiative: Advance CTE is conducting quarterly check in calls with the Advancing Postsecondary CTE Data Quality Initiative grantees to monitor progress towards annual SMART goals and provide thought partnership on the work. Advance CTE is also undertaking research projects to support implementation of state action plans.

Publications: In August, Advance CTE will release:

- *With Learners, Not for Learners: A Toolkit for Elevating Learner Voice in CTE*
- *Brave Dialogues: A Guide to Discussing Racial Equity in Career Technical Education* has been rescheduled for August 30, 2021. This will allow for the discussion guide to be released closer to the accompanying facilitation workshop that will occur in early October 2021.

Work has started on interviews for the next *New Skills ready network* publication on scaling individual career and academic plans. This report will be released around the end of November and feature both state and local best practices.

The Career Readiness Metrics Framework is being finalized for publication later this summer. The metrics framework was developed by the CTE Data Quality workgroup and will document a continuum of career readiness metrics from middle school through postsecondary education that are aligned with federal accountability, supported by research or commonly used in states.

Learning that Works Resource Center: The Resource Center sustained a total of 8,987 hits for the month of July. The top two resources for this month include Advance CTE's Career Clusters Student Interest Survey, followed by Advance CTE's Broadening the Path: Design Principles for Middle Grades CTE.

Advance CTE has launched two microsites to support the data policy benchmark tool and the area technical centers resources. This month, the microsite for area technical centers sustained 114 views and the microsite for the data policy benchmark tool sustained 116 views*.



*Reported data for June include website traffic through July 29, 2021

** Reported data represents an average of website for the years 2017-2019./

CTE Without Limits: In the past month, Advance CTE continued to provide support to our members and the broader field to elevate *CTE Without Limits*.

Major activities include:

- Releasing [CTE Without Limits Partner Initiative Repository](#), a collection of current and past initiatives aligned to the vision, providing a starting point for CTE leaders to identify gaps as well as focus and build on existing work.
- Hosting a third [lunch and learns](#) on principle three
- Releasing [Leveraging Federal Investments to Advance CTE Without Limits](#)
- Hosting a vision partners meeting, which 25 partners attended
- Releasing our second two “video blogs” on [quality](#) and [industry engagement](#) in our four-part series
- Hosting our third CTE Without Limits Kitchen Cabinet meeting

We have also been elevating key principles and actions in our fundraising and development efforts, with potential grants from the Walton Family Foundation and Joyce Foundation directly advancing efforts around CTE funding (principle one), equity in CTE (principle two) and CTE without borders (principle five).

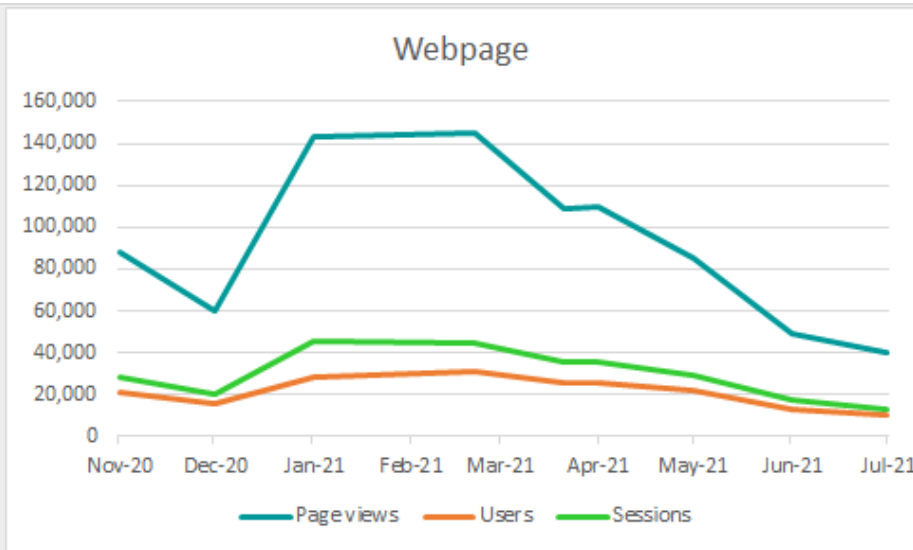
Looking ahead, Advance CTE is developing a tool (“Testing the Limits: A Roadmap for Advancing CTE Without Limits in Your State”) that will:

- Unpacks each of the actions in *CTE Without Limits*
- Provides self-assessment questions to help state leaders reflect on the current alignment of policies and practice, capacity for change and the potential impact of moving the needle for each action
- Provides sample implementation steps, policies and resources to inspire action; and
- Offers an action planning tool to develop SMART goals to drive systemic change.

Advance CTE has received input from the vision kitchen cabinet and Board members on this tool and we aim to have it finalized this summer and released in October.

PROMOTION

Communications Update:

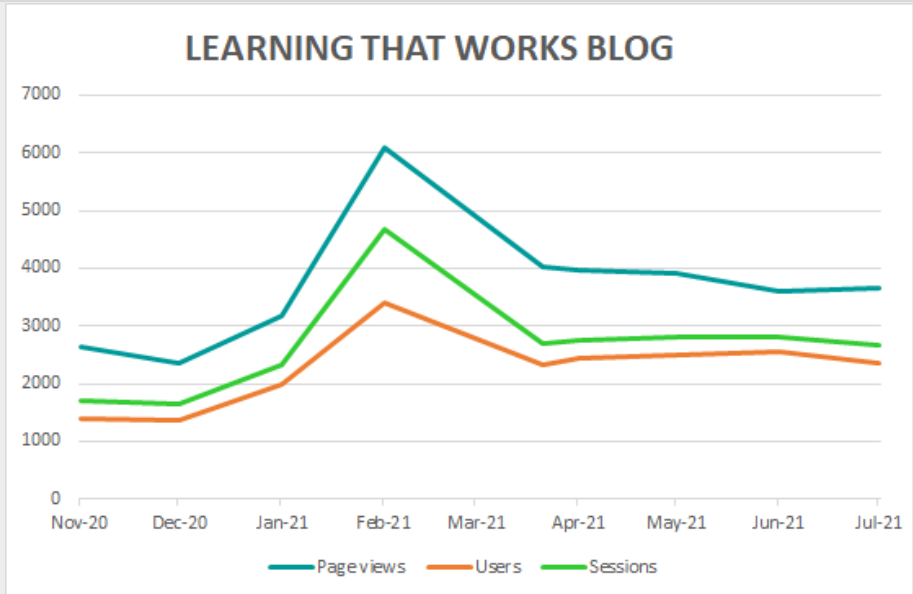


Major Organizational Releases/Initiatives

- [CTE in Your State](#) (1,191)
- [CTE Without Limits](#) (943)
- [Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment](#) (92)

Acquisition of site users

- Organic search (35%)
- Direct (47.8%)
- Referral (14.2%)
- Social (3%)

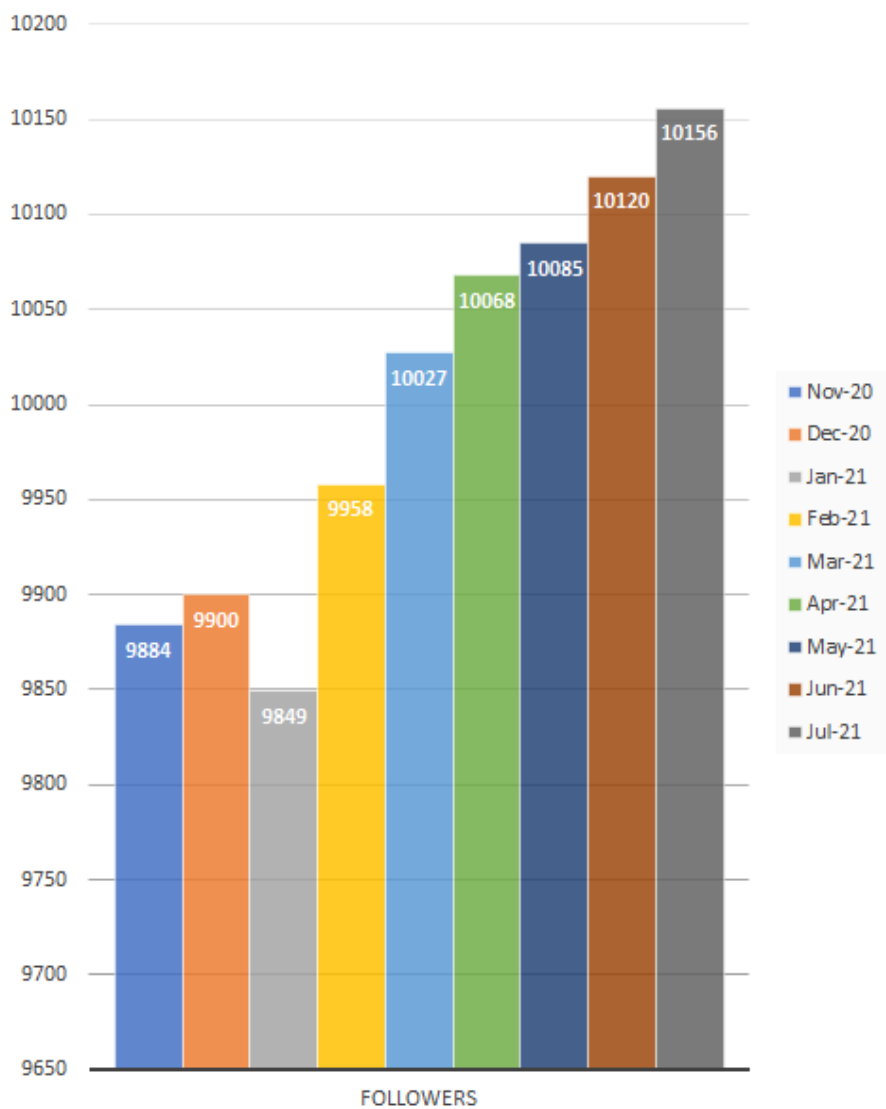


8 Blog Posts Published

Most visited blogs:

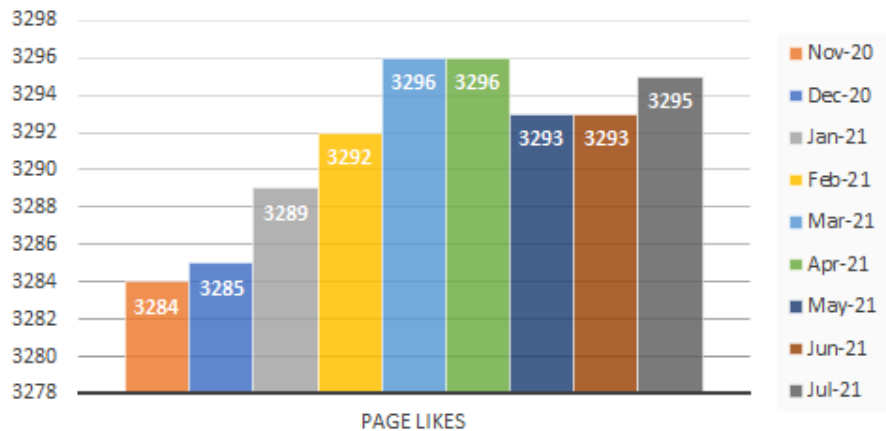
- [Two New App Development with Swift Certifications from Apple](#)
- [Welcoming Erskine Glover to New Jersey](#)
- [Legislative Update: House Appropriations Bill and Announcements from ED](#)

Twitter



Twitter: +36

FACEBOOK



Facebook: +2

Media Engagement: The month of July focused on building internal processes to advance stronger relationships with media, including identifying top reporters and outlet targets and the formulation of a quarterly media strategy. Two press releases were executed to announce new board leadership and provide a statement on the passing of Senator Mike Enzi, a strong legislative advocate of CTE.

Webpage: The Advance CTE website has declined in page views this month. Over the past years, the summer months consistently carried lesser page views with a steady incline in the fall once schools reopen. The communications team is actively monitoring the decline and implementing new strategies to bring traffic to www.careertech.org, including a new Learning that Works Resource Center social calendar and a [promotional campaign](#) in the month of August for Equity in CTE.

PARTNERSHIPS

Below is a list of Advance CTE’s staff most impactful or otherwise notable engagement activities from last month

VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Building a World Where CTE Has No Limits, Arizona CTE Summer Conference, Association for Career Technical Education of Arizona ● CTE Without Limits: Lunch and Learn #3: Each learner skillfully navigates their own career journey, Advance CTE ● CTE's Role in an Equitable Economic Recovery, South Carolina’s Education and Business Summit ● Effective and Equitable Messages for CTE Program Recruitment: A Research Update, Arizona CTE Summer Conference, Association for Career Technical Education of Arizona ● Expanding CTE Dual Enrollment, College in High School Alliance & National Governors Association (NGA) Cross-State Workshop ● Social Capital Message Testing Project, Wonder: Strategies for Good
VIRTUAL EVENTS ATTENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anytime, Anywhere, Anyplace: Recruiting and Marketing CTE in a Virtual World, Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE) ● Briefing on Budget and Appropriations, Politico PRO ● Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce Meeting ● Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Board Meeting ● Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Membership Meeting ● Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Hill Day ● Committee Markup of FY22 Labor-HHS-Ed Appropriations Bill, House of Representatives ● Homework Gap Coalition Meeting ● Infrastructure Briefing, Politico PRO ● Keeping the Pell Grant Promise: Increasing Enrollment, Supporting Success, House Committee on Education and Labor ● Leveraging Workers’ Skills for an Inclusive Economy: Tools, Resources, and Evidence, WorkRise ● Manufacturing Skills Standards Board Meeting ● Press Event: The Value of Investments in Workforce Training, House Committee on Education and Labor

- Race & Education | HBCUs in the Wake of COVID-19, The Hunt Institute
- Re-Entry Roundtable with Helios HR
- Scaling Baccalaureate Pathways to Create a More Equitable Future, Community College Baccalaureate Association
- Subcommittee Markup of Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) Appropriations Bill, House of Representatives
- The Importance of Increased Federal Education Funding, Committee for Education Funding
- Title IV-A Coalition Meeting
- Virtual Convening: Building an Applied Science to Support Working Learners, Stanford University
- Workforce Stakeholders Call, White House Office of Public Engagement

OTHER PARTNERS ENGAGED

- America Achieves
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE)
- Bloomberg
- Christensen Institute
- College in High School Alliance
- Committee for Education Funding
- Credential Engine
- Education Strategy Group
- ExcelinEd
- JFF
- Joyce Foundation
- Manhattan Strategy Group
- National Association of State Budget Officers
- National Association of Workforce Boards
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Governors Association (NGA)
- National Skills Coalition (NSC)
- New York CTE Technical Assistance Center
- Search Institute
- Sierra Club
- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career Technical and Adult Education
- U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
- U.S. Department of Labor, Intergovernmental Affairs
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship
- U.S. Department of Labor, Secretary's Office
- Vivayic
- Wonder: Strategies for Good



ADVANCE CTE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

YOUR VOICE FROM THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Dear Advance CTE Members,

So, there are two camps of people: those who love the Olympics and those who do not. I am in the former camp. As a former gymnast and want-to-be skateboarder, I have been watching the Tokyo Olympics and am inspired by the diversity of our country's athletes, and that of the world, and awed by their strength, focus and persistence. The Olympics have also reminded me of the power and importance of celebrations. As a Gen X'er who celebrates by crossing things off my to-do list, I have had to learn - and am still learning - that recognition and celebration matter and that both need to lift up and honor individuals, their lived experiences and differing strengths and skills. Making celebrations, particularly celebrations of diversity, a routine is an important step towards living the aspiration of *Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education* (CTE Without Limits). The vision's foundational commitment to equity means understanding, utilizing and celebrating the differences and diversity of each individual on our team (and the learners we serve). We are better and stronger because of our diversity. And that is something to celebrate! What are you celebrating?

Your skills, lived experiences and contributions to our CTE community are what keep our team at Advance CTE inspired and motivated to support you as you lead systems and challenge the limits of making CTE more accessible, welcoming and successful for every learner.

I celebrate each of you and hope to see you soon!

Kimberly A. Green



KIMBERLY GREEN
Executive Director

Membership Update

New Resources from Advance CTE

Promoting Career Technical Education: Social Media Guide

Social media is an increasingly important communications tool that can be used to effectively reach families, employers, policymakers, and other audiences that need to know about the value and promise of CTE. This guide from Advance CTE explains how to effectively use social media, describes how to integrate messages into social media posts and highlights effective campaigns to promote CTE.

Invest Forward

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and the investment of \$123 billion in K-12 education, the federal government made one of the most dramatic attempts of our lifetimes to give communities the tools to rebuild. Along with collaborators from leading educational organizations across the country, Advance CTE is pleased to share this new effort to encourage district and state leaders to prioritize support for students' pathways to postsecondary and career success in their ARP spending plans.

As part of this effort, we're working with leading experts from across the country to arm district and state leaders with high-impact strategies and shovel-ready investments to guide their student pathways. New resources available today include:

- A [new website](#) with detailed how-to guides for 20 (and counting) potential pathways investment strategies; and
- Opportunities for district and state leaders to connect with peers and experts to plan for their pathways investments.

Make sure to [sign up](#) to hear about additional resources coming soon, including:

- Research and evidence on promising practices to support students' postsecondary pathways access and success; and
- Spotlights on district and state spending plans that are prioritizing pathways investments.

From Our Partners

- Research/ Report - Nashville Education Foundation - *Bridge to Completion: Understanding the College Access and Success Ecosystem for Metro Nashville Public Schools Students*
- Research/ Report - Center for Promise at America's Promise Alliance - *The State of Youth Employment: Navigating the World of Work During COVID-19*

Forthcoming in August

- **Fellowship** — *Postsecondary State CTE Leaders Fellowship* — Advance CTE's 17-month Fellowship strives to close racial representation and equity gaps in state postsecondary Career Technical Education leadership. Through supportive spaces and an equity-centered curriculum, Fellows will gain the skills and network to pursue leadership positions in state postsecondary CTE. Share with your networks using this promotional [toolkit](#).
- **Guide/Tools** — *Brave Dialogues: A Guide to Discussing Racial Equity in Career Technical Education* — This resource provides state CTE leaders with tools to become better equipped and motivated to begin and continue in discussions to right the wrongs in CTE and to support state CTE leaders in creating an environment in which their state teams, local intermediaries, business partnerships and more have the language and comfort to discuss challenges and opportunities related to racial equity in CTE. [Register for the Ask an Expert session, today!](#)
- **Guide/Tools** — *With Learners, Not for Learners: A Toolkit for Elevating Learner Voice in CTE* — The toolkit and its resources will focus on opportunities and strategies for engaging current CTE learners, including learners in middle and high school CTE programs as well as adult learners in postsecondary CTE programs, in the development, assessment and improvement of CTE programs, practices and policies.

Save the Date!

**Our virtual Fall Meeting will be on October 27 and 28, 2021.
Early bird registration is now open.**

Meeting CTE's Moment

ADVANCE >> CTE

2021 Fall Meeting
October 27 and 28

State Policy Update

Over the past two months, state legislatures have been busy passing legislation related to CTE. To date, approximately 75 pieces of state policy impacting CTE have passed through state legislatures. Workforce development has been a specific focus as the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic continues to impact workforce systems. Some states have legislated programming in this area in response to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) passed in March. Here are a few highlights of state legislation passed from the end of June through July.

- **Colorado** HB1264 allows the Colorado Department of Employment and Labor to implement workforce development activities using additional appropriated state funding as a response to the coronavirus. Activities include financial assistance for career counseling or exploration, tuition, employer-provided training or additional services to allow individuals to participate in short-term training in order to obtain an industry-recognized credential. HB1264 also allows for the state to improve outcomes for learners and workers through grants for new program development or existing program expansion, including in areas of work-based learning and incentivizing skill-based hiring practices, among others.
- **Florida** H1507 establishes the Reimagining Education and Career Help Act to increase collaboration and cooperation among state business and education communities while improving equity and access in this system. The act creates the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help in the Executive Office of the Governor to advise on workforce development system goals, provide strategies to align and diversify the system, coordinate state workforce programs and resources, and oversee the Workforce Development Information System, among other responsibilities.
- **Hawaii** HB1176 creates a green job youth corps program through the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide temporary work and training opportunities for young adults in response to the coronavirus. This program is funded through appropriations from ARPA.
- **Texas** SB1102 establishes the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) program. This program awards grants to eligible agencies, such as a junior college, technical institute or local chamber of commerce, to create, redesign or expand training programs that lead to industry certification or create pathways to employment for learners, in accordance with local workforce needs. This law also directs the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to identify new postsecondary industry certification or workforce credentials.

Advance CTE staff continues to track state policy actions on an ongoing basis. While most state legislatures have gone into recess for the year, some are still passing legislation. We are also tracking other state policy actions such as executive orders or state board of education actions. If

you have a state policy action that you feel should be included in our state tracking, please reach out to policy associate Dan Hinderliter at dhinderliter@careertech.org.

View from the Hill

This month, Advance CTE has continued to advocate for increased funding for CTE through the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) appropriations bill. The House Appropriations Committee's Labor-HHS-Ed Subcommittee released its FY22 bill this month. It includes an increase of \$50 million for the Perkins Basic State Grant (\$30 million above what the President's May budget proposal recommended) for a total of \$1.38 billion. It also included \$100 million for a competitive grant program that would carry out evidence-based middle and high school CTE innovation programs. Additionally, it included language that names certain apprenticeship programs as eligible institutions under Perkins. Advance CTE has been working with Congressional staff and partner organizations to resolve concerns about this section- particularly the apprenticeship component.

Advance CTE has also been advocating for the inclusion of CTE and workforce development funding in an upcoming infrastructure bill.

Also this month, Advance CTE was pleased to support the Securing Universal Communications Connectivity Fund to Ensure Students Success (SUCCESS) Act. This bill was introduced by Senators Ed Markey (D-MA) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), as well as Representative Grace Meng (D-NY). It would build on the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Emergency Connectivity Fund and provide schools and libraries with \$8 billion per year over five years to ensure students, staff and library patrons have access to the internet and internet-enabled devices.

To follow along with Congressional and administration actions related to CTE, check out our [Legislative Updates](#).

CTE Without Limits

CTE Without Limits is now supported by more than 40 national organizations. Advance CTE's newest implementation resource, [a vision partner initiative repository](#), compiles current and past national initiatives and investments aligned to the five vision principles collected from organizational supporters.

The first *CTE Without Limits* vlog series continues to feature panel discussions with experts across the CTE field about the importance of each vision principle and their organizations' initiatives to advance learner success in the career preparation ecosystem. Vision vlogs can be viewed [here](#).

Registration for the fourth Lunch and Learn is [now open!](#)

Lunch & Learn: Each learner's skills are counted, valued, and portable

Date: August 17, 2021

Time: 3:00 PM ET

This session is the fourth in Advance CTE's Lunch & Learn series focused on exploring each of the principles from *CTE Without Limits*. Attendees will be introduced to the fourth principle of the vision, "Each learner's skills are counted, valued, and portable" and the roles of secondary, postsecondary and workforce systems in accomplishing this principle. Attendees will have a chance to discuss this principle in small groups and will leave this session with an increased awareness of the aspirations of this principle and strategies to apply it to their own work.

The first three Lunch and Learn recordings can be found on the *CTE Without Limits* [webpage](#).

Continue to utilize these communication resources as you advance the work in your state:

- [Executive Summary](#) of *CTE Without Limits*
- [PowerPoint slides](#) and aligned [talking points](#)
- [Promotional Toolkit](#) for *CTE Without Limits*

Engagement Activities

Presentations:

- Effective and Equitable Messages for CTE Program Recruitment: A Research Update, Arizona CTE Summer Conference, Association for Career Technical Education of Arizona
- Building a World Where CTE Has No Limits, Arizona CTE Summer Conference, Association for Career Technical Education of Arizona
- CTE's Role in an Equitable Economic Recovery, South Carolina's Education and Business Summit
- Social Capital Message Testing Project, Wonder: Strategies for Good
- Expanding CTE Dual Enrollment, College in High School Alliance & National Governors Association (NGA) Cross-State Workshop
- [CTE Without Limits: Lunch and Learn #3](#): Each learner skillfully navigates their own career journey, Advance CTE

Virtual Events Attended:

- Leveraging Workers' Skills for an Inclusive Economy: Tools, Resources, and Evidence, WorkRise
- Anytime, Anywhere, Anyplace: Recruiting and Marketing CTE in a Virtual World, Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE)
- Committee for Education Funding (CEF) Hill Day
- The Importance of Increased Federal Education Funding, CEF
- CEF Board Meeting
- CEF Membership Meeting
- Manufacturing Skills Standards Board Meeting

- Virtual Convening: Building an Applied Science to Support Working Learners, Stanford University
- Scaling Baccalaureate Pathways to Create a More Equitable Future, Community College Baccalaureate Association
- Race & Education | HBCUs in the Wake of COVID-19, The Hunt Institute
- Homework Gap Coalition Meeting
- Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Meeting
- Title IV-A Coalition Meeting
- Subcommittee Markup of Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-Ed) Appropriations Bill, House of Representatives
- Committee Markup of FY22 Labor-HHS-Ed Appropriations Bill, House of Representatives
- Infrastructure Briefing, Politico PRO
- Press Event: The Value of Investments in Workforce Training, House Committee on Education and Labor
- Workforce Stakeholders Call, White House Office of Public Engagement
- Keeping the Pell Grant Promise: Increasing Enrollment, Supporting Success, House Committee on Education and Labor
- Briefing on Budget and Appropriations, Politico PRO
- Re-Entry Roundtable with Helios HR

Partners Engaged:

- ACTE
- America Achieves
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Bloomberg
- CEF
- College in High School Alliance
- CredentialEngine
- Christensen Institute
- Education Strategy Group
- ExcelinEd
- JFF
- Joyce Foundation
- Manhattan Strategy Group
- National Association of Workforce Boards
- National Association of State Budget Officers
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Skills Coalition (NSC)
- New York CTE Technical Assistance Center
- NGA
- Search Institute
- Sierra Club
- U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career Technical and Adult Education
- U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship
- U.S. Department of Labor, Intergovernmental Affairs
- U.S. Department of Labor, Secretary's Office
- Vivayic

- Wonder: Strategies for Good

