

## QUICK UPDATES

**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.

August 5, 2021 – Joint Board Meeting	12:00–1:00 p.m.	Review and Vote on Proposed New Career Clusters Framework Prototype
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**

**Organizational Update:** Due to Scott's departure, staff have reorganized some work internally and have posted a [new position, Senior Advisor for Equity](#). We'll be re-opening our search for a State Policy Manager, as our last search did not result in a successful hire.

**Finance Update:** These numbers represent the FY21 year-end finances through June 30, 2021, which is 100% of the fiscal year. We are still closing out some final bills and invoices, so our records are not yet closed out for the fiscal year. Our final FY21 actuals will be shared at the September Board Meeting. Both organizations are closing out FY21 in a very strong financial position.

Advance CTE Budget Snapshot	Center to Advance CTE Budget Snapshot
Received 118% of budgeted income	Received 99% of budgeted income
Expended 67% of budgeted expenses	Expended 73% of budgeted expenses

**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
<b>Strategies for Recruiting Students into CTE</b>	Siemens Foundation	Ongoing	<p>Five states were selected for the request for proposals to advance recruitment projects that incorporate <i>Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment</i>. States are in the process of accepting and completing contracts. A public announcement will be released by early August.</p> <p>Staff also completed the first review phase for the virtual transfer of the career advising workshop, and conducted intentional outreach as part of expanding the diversity of workshop facilitators. Facilitators will be selected and trained by the end of August.</p> <p>Presentations and submissions to state conferences to present the communications research continued. Work commenced on a research briefing for an employer survey that was conducted in concert with the updated communications research.</p>
<b>New Skills ready network</b>	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
<b>CTE Without Limits, Career Clusters, CLNA/Perkins</b>	Gates Foundation	Ongoing	Our next proposal for \$500,000 over 18 months has been approved and payment is on the way, with a start date of June 1. This new grant will continue to support vision, Career Clusters and Perkins implementation supports.
<b>Partnership for Advancing Youth Apprenticeship</b>	New America (Siemens, Ballmer Group, JPMorgan Chase)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.

<b>NSFY Innovation Sites (Data Quality)</b>	JPMorgan Chase	Ongoing	We have received our no-cost extension, and the grant will conclude in December 2021.
<b>Equity</b>	Joyce Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
<b>Postsecondary Data Quality</b>	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing as described below.
<b>Postsecondary CTE Fellows Program</b>	ECMC Foundation	Ongoing	This past month, Advance CTE hosted the inaugural meeting of the National Advisory Committee for the Fellowship Program. The focus of the meeting was to review the curriculum, application and selection resources and Fellow recruitment resources.
<b>NIDILRR</b>	UMass Medical School	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
<b>National Study on Community College Workforce Programs</b>	Lumina Foundation (Opportunity America)	Ongoing	No major updates beyond the work is progressing.
<b>College High School Alliance</b>	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	The scope of this grant has been finalized, with the selection of six states receiving TA, described below. Our current sub-grant has increased from \$20,000 to \$34,000 over two years.
<b>CTE Funding &amp; CTE without borders</b>	Walton Family Foundation	Proposal development	In June, we had subsequent discussions with the Walton Family Foundation, focusing on two projects – one around CTE funding models and one on “CTE without borders.” We have officially been invited to submit a proposal, which we will do over the summer.
<b>American Student Assistance (ASA)</b>		In active discussions	At the request of ASA, Advance CTE submitted a short proposal focused on work-based learning in May. The funder is going through a strategy revision. Once that is completed, they will reach back out as they are interested in pursuing the proposal concept.
<b>Stimulus Support</b>	Multiple	In active discussions	In May, Advance CTE participated in a funders collaborative meeting, facilitated by New America, to advise funders on how to ensure stimulus funds were used to support career pathways. Following this meeting, Advance CTE has been working with a group of national organizations to develop a strategy for a multi-funder, multi-year investment. Planning will continue through the summer.

<b>DOL- Apprenticeship</b>	American Institutes of Research (AIR)  Council of State Governments (CSG)	Proposal submitted	Advance CTE was approached by a number of organizations to join onto to applications for the new Department of Labor apprenticeship centers. In April, we ultimately joined two organizations – AIR, which applied for the Strategic Partnerships and Alignment Technical Assistance Center and CSG, which applied for the Diversity and Inclusion Technical Assistance Center. CSG was selected for their TA Center and we are awaiting next steps. The funding will total approximately \$400,000, over four years. AIR was not awarded a contract but CSG was. We are awaiting next steps on this work.
<b>Area Technical Centers</b>	Lumina Foundation	On hold	We completed our grant with the Lumina Foundation and will resume discussions soon on what future investments might look like.

**Priority: Empower members through PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

**Membership Update:** Advance CTE finished FY21 with a record total of 571 members.

- State Directors: 55
- State Team Members: 211
- Individual Associate State: 20
- Individual Associate Non-State: 110
- Organizational: 48 organizations, 175 individual organizational members

**State CTE Directors:**

- Bernadette Howard retired this month from her position as State CTE Director in Hawaii. Stephen Schatz is the new contact.
- Eric Frauwirth left his position as State CTE Director in New Hampshire. Interim contacts are McKenzie Snow, Division Director or Jeffrey Beard, Perkins Manager.

**Member Engagement & Professional Learning:** Advance CTE held the first two of five Lunch & Learn sessions on the Without Limits vision principles. Each 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 principles further and to build connections between the vision and their work. 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 &amp; 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 &amp; Learn, how prepared do you currently feel to advance this principle in your work? (4 pt)</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>
<b>Principle 1</b>	2.35	3	27.66%	2.46	3.05	23.98%
<b>Principle 2</b>	2.51	2.91	15.94%	2.53	3.23	27.67%

Advance CTE held regional calls for State CTE Directors in June and 21 State Directors attended across the five calls. There were six sets of regional calls held between August 2020 and June 2021 and 49 State Directors joined at least one of the six calls for their region. No states attended all six calls but seven states attended five.

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

***Federal Advocacy Update:*** At the end of last month, the White House released its Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) full budget proposal. As a reminder, differently from prior years this proposal did not only list requests for the FY22 appropriations bills, but also named requested funding through the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. This request calls for a \$20 million increase (only approximately 1.5%) to the Perkins Basic State Grant, as well as a \$108 million increase for National Programs- of which \$100 million would fund competitive awards for middle and high school CTE innovation projects aimed at advancing equity and \$8 million would fund technical assistance and grant evaluations. Advance CTE was disappointed by the 1.5% increase for the Basic State Grant. Interestingly, the request also includes a new \$1 billion annually for 10 years to support middle and high school career pathways- this funding would happen separately through the passing of the American Jobs Plan (AJP). When the different funding streams come together, the Administration requested essentially doubling the investment in CTE- an encouraging signal of support for the CTE community. Advance CTE in partnership with the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) released a statement on this proposal, which can be viewed [here](#).

This month, Advance CTE, in partnership with ACTE, sent a letter to appropriators analyzing the impact of the budget proposal, and requesting that the full AJP funding be included in the FY22 appropriations bill through the Basic State Grant. This request was also submitted in a written testimony to the Senate. Both documents explained that the CTE community would welcome funding in any form, but discussed the impact of the Basic State Grant and why it is an equitable and efficient avenue to deliver funding and why an increase in federal funding for CTE is imperative.

Also, this month, the Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals (PREP) Act was endorsed by Advance CTE and reintroduced by Senators Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Susan Collins (R-ME), members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee to address teacher and principal

shortages. The PREP Act particularly addresses shortages in rural areas, and ways to increase teacher diversity. Senator Kaine is also one of the Co-Chairs of the Congressional CTE Caucus. The legislation would expand the definition of high need districts under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to include schools with teacher shortages in rural communities as well as in “core academic subjects,” which includes CTE.

Advance CTE also replied to a Federal Register “Notice of Intent to Reestablish the Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA) Charter and Request for Member Nominations” with nomination requests for three State CTE Directors.

### **State Policy Update:**

**Advancing The Framework:** In June, Advance CTE and Vivayic hosted the second of two facilitated workshops that brought together 15 national experts to discuss the ideas and future steps of the Advancing the Framework initiative. We are finalizing the development of a prototype to bring to the Board of Directors in August.

**Data Initiative:** Advance CTE is providing direct technical assistance to the five funded states in the Advancing Postsecondary CTE Data Quality Initiative (PDI). This month, Advance CTE completed research on competency-based postsecondary pathways and work-based learning policy manuals. Additionally, Advance CTE hosted another problem of practice discussion with the full community of practice.

The Data Quality workgroup is continuing its work on the metrics framework and CTE equity index. The metrics framework, which lists a continuum of career readiness metrics at the middle school, high school and postsecondary level, is in the final stages of development and will be released in August. The CTE equity index is still in development. The objective of the index is to provide an index and analytical framework for evaluating the degree to which CTE programs are equitably serving and supporting all learners.

**Learner Voice Shared Solutions Workgroup:** The CTE Learner Voice SSWG met for the final time on June 23rd to gather the last remaining input for the learner voice toolkit that will be released in August.

**Opportunity Gap Workshop:** Advance CTE has reworked the rollout plan for the opportunity gap analysis workshop, aiming to host a train-the-trainer program in the fall. Participants will get hands-on training on identifying and addressing equity gaps in their data. Materials for the workshop - including a dashboard template, facilitation guide, and PPT slides - were completed this month and are going through the design process.

**College in High School Alliance:** For the last year, Advance CTE has served on the Steering Committee for the CHSA. In the past month, CHSA selected six states (Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Ohio and Oklahoma) to receive intensive technical assistance to strengthen their overall systems around dual/concurrent enrollment, with a particular focus on addressing equity gaps. Advance CTE will be providing technical assistance to two of these states (Kentucky and Oklahoma), both of whom identified expanding CTE dual enrollment as a component of their strategies.

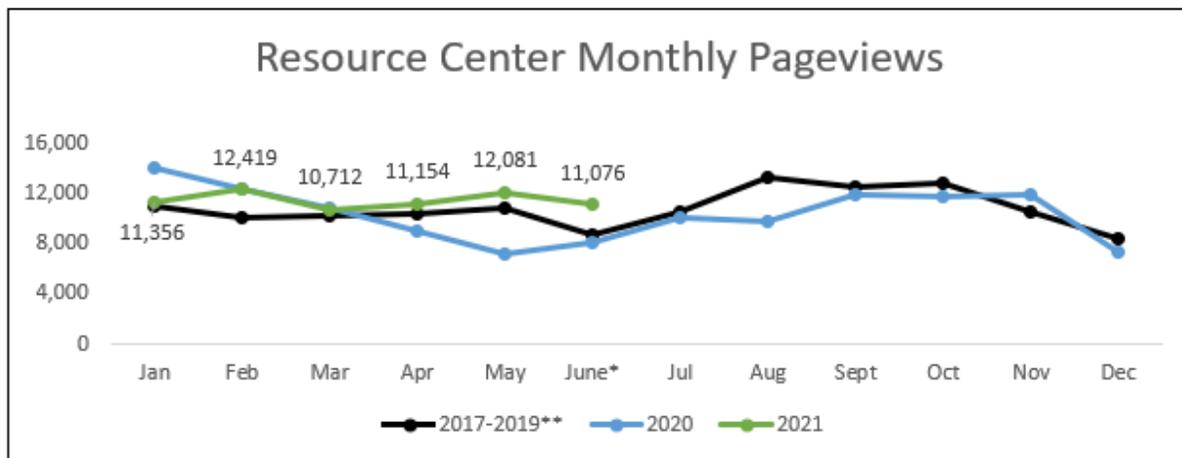
**Publications:** Last month, Advance CTE released:

- [Strengthening Career Pathways Through the Power of State and Local Partnerships](#)
- [New Skills ready network Year One Annual Report: Early Achievements and Innovations](#)
- [Snapshots](#) on the six *New Skills ready network* sites

The release date for *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.

**Learning that Works Resource Center:** The Resource Center sustained a total of 11,076 hits for the month of June. The top two resources for this month include Advance CTE’s Career Clusters Student Interest Survey, followed by Advance CTE’s Strengthening Career Pathways Through the Power of State and Local Partnerships.

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 165 views and the microsite for the data policy benchmark tool sustained 230 views\*.



\*Reported data for June include website traffic through June 29, 2021  
\*\* Reported data represents an average of website for the years 2017-2019.

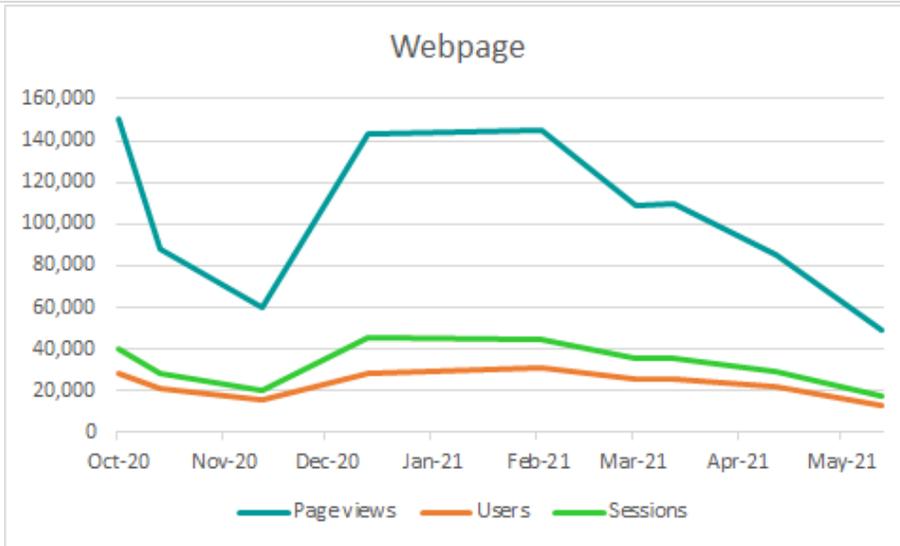
**CTE Without Limits:** In the past month, Advance CTE continued to provide support to our members and the broader field to elevate *CTE Without Limits*.

Major activities include:

- Hosting two [lunch and learns](#) on principle 1 and principle 2
- Releasing [Leveraging Federal Investments to Advance CTE Without Limits](#)
- Hosting a vision partners meeting, which 25 partners attended
- Releasing our first ["video blog,"](#) in our four-part series
- Hosting our second CTE Without Limits Kitchen Cabinet meeting

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

**Communications Update:**

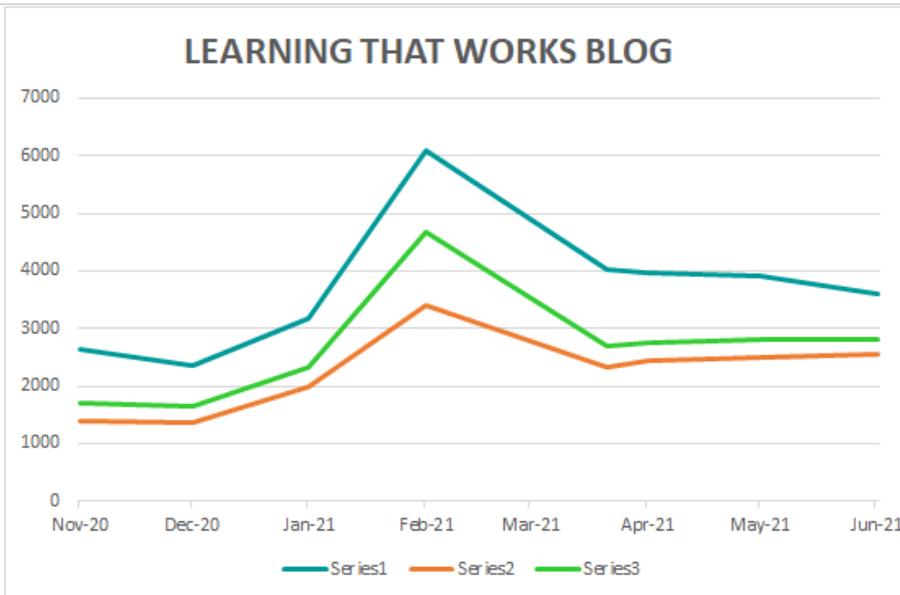


**Major Organizational Releases/Initiatives**

- Strengthening Career Pathways Through the Power of State and Local Partnerships (287)
- *New Skills* ready network Annual Report and Six Site Snapshots (191)
- CTE Without Limits (1,052)
- Promote CTE: Engaging Families and Learners (462)

**Acquisition of site users**

- Organic search (28.3%)
- Direct (52.5%)
- Referral (16.4%)
- Social (2.6%)

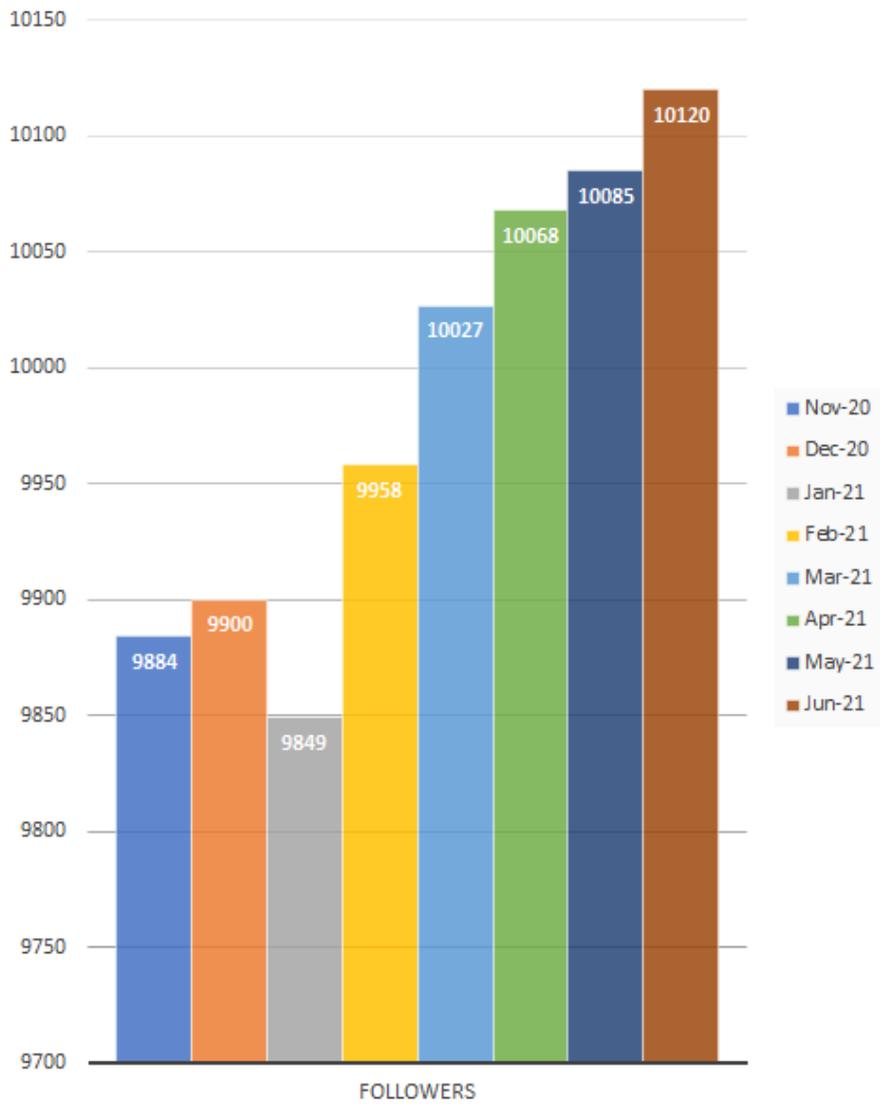


**15 Blog Posts Published**

Most visited blogs:

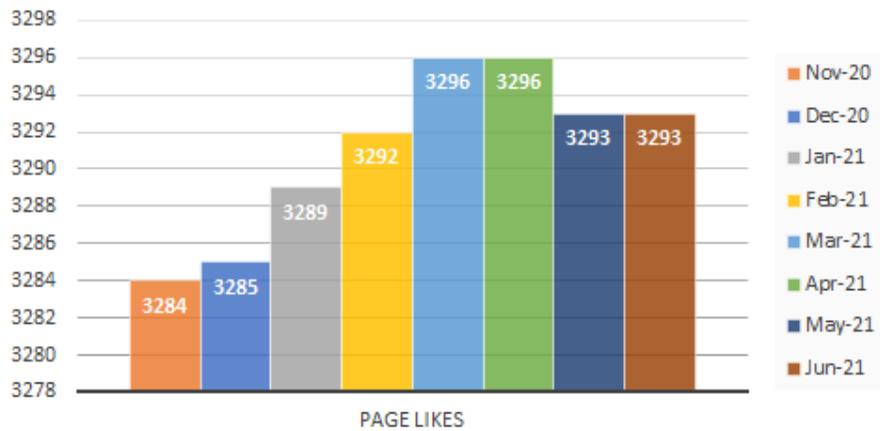
- [5 Steps to Refresh Career Technical Education Program Recruitment Plans This Summer](#)
- [New Resource Strives to Strengthen Collaborative Partnerships Between State and Local Partners](#)
- [Legislative Update: President's Budget Request and ED Roundtable](#)

## Twitter



Twitter: +35

## FACEBOOK



Facebook: +0

**Media Engagement:** Advance CTE had a successful month for media engagement. Advance CTE placed an op-ed in [Industry Week](#) on CTE’s role in economic recovery. Kimberly Green and Meredith Hills were quoted in an [article](#) published by *Tech and Learning* about the future of CTE and federal policy priorities. Advance CTE’s posts that were part of a multi-organizational Twitter chat on advancing equity in workforce development was featured in a *Forbes* [article](#) about the event. Advance CTE publications and CTE 101 video were mentioned in multiple publications, including *The Job* newsletter and *K-12 Dive*. Finally, staff held a roundtable with media fellows current and previous Fellows of Citizens and Scholars Higher Education Media Fellowship on June 16.

**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><b>VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Advance CTE Postsecondary Data Quality Initiative June Call, Advance CTE</li> <li>● Avenue Scholars, Keynote</li> <li>● Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment, Institute for Citizens and Scholars Media Roundtable</li> <li>● Cross-State College in High School Workshop, College High School Alliance/National Governors Association</li> <li>● CTE Without Limits Lunch and Learn #1: Creating a cohesive, flexible and responsive career preparation ecosystem</li> <li>● CTE Without Limits Lunch and Learn #2: Each learner feels welcome in, is supported by, and has the means to succeed in the career preparation ecosystem</li> <li>● Indiana Youth Apprenticeship Community of Practice, Ascend Indy</li> <li>● Strategies for Engaging Priority Populations in Perkins V, Wyoming Department of Education</li> <li>● Washington Policy Seminar Session “Perkins V State Plans and Dual &amp; Concurrent Enrollment,” National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)</li> <li>● Workforce Labor Market Information Committee Meeting, National Association of State Workforce Agencies</li> </ul>
<p><b>VIRTUAL EVENTS ATTENDED</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce Meeting</li> <li>● CareerTech Vision 2021, Association for Career Technical Education (ACTE)</li> <li>● Coalition for Workforce Development through Career Technical Education Meeting, Association for Career Technical Education</li> </ul>

- Committee for Education Funding Meeting
- COVID-19 Response and Recovery: Supporting the Needs of Students in Higher Education & Lessons on Safely Returning to Campus on Safely Returning to Campus, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
- District-Level Strategies to Advance Equity in Career and Technical Education Programs, Regional Education Laboratory (REL) Central
- Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Education, House Education & Labor Committee
- Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Education, House Committee on Education & Labor
- Hearing on the President's FY22 Budget Request for the U.S. Department of Education, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
- Homework Gap Coalition Meeting
- National Activities Showcase, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education
- National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) Board of Directors Meeting
- Title IV-A Coalition Meeting
- Using Research and Evaluation to Improve Workforce Development Programs, WorkforceGPS
- Webinar: A practical playbook and meaningful metrics for building and strengthening students' networks, Equitable Futures
- WIOA Reauthorization: Examining Successful Models of Employment for Justice-Involved Individuals, House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment

**OTHER PARTNERS  
ENGAGED**

- American Institute of Research
- American School Counselors Association
- American Student Assistance
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Career Development Coalition
- College in High School Alliance
- Data Quality Campaign
- Education Strategy Group
- ExcelinEd
- JFF
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
- National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
- National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- National Career Academy Coalition
- National Geographic Learning | Cengage

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- National Governors Association
  - National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI)
  - National Skills Coalition
  - New America
  - Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE)
  - University of Massachusetts Medical School
  - Unmudl: Community College Marketplace
  - Walton Family Foundation
  - Wonder: Strategies for Good



## ADVANCE CTE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

YOUR VOICE FROM THE NATION'S CAPITAL

### Dear Advance CTE Members,

June is a month of transition - the transition of graduates moving on to their next step in their education or career; the transition from spring to summer and for many, the transition now to some of our pre-COVID norms of in-person business meeting rather than all-day-Zoom, reuniting with friends and family, hugs, seeing smiles instead of masks and real vacations as opposed to staycations! Yay for transitions!

This month, the National Independence Day established Juneteenth as a [new federal holiday](#), which commemorates the end of slavery by marking the day enslaved people in Texas learned they were free. President Biden shared that *"We can't rest until the promise of equality is fulfilled for every one of us in every corner of this nation."* Career Technical Education (CTE) has a significant role to play in accomplishing this promise.

As described in principle 2 of [Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education](#) (CTE Without Limits), we can work to make sure *"each learner feels welcome in, is supported by, and has the means to succeed in the career preparation ecosystem"*. If you are looking for a place to start your work, I encourage you to check out this [recording](#) of our Lunch and Learn exploring this principle and read the [Making Good on the Promise](#) series examining how to close access and equity gaps in CTE.

I wish you all a wonderful start to summer and a Happy Fourth of July holiday.

*Kimberly A. Green*



KIMBERLY GREEN  
Executive Director

## Membership Update

- Bernadette Howard retires this month from her position as State CTE Director in **Hawaii**. Happy retirement Bernadette and thank you for your service! Stephen Schatz is the new contact in HI.
- Eric Frauwirth is leaving his position as State CTE Director in **New Hampshire**. Interim contacts are McKenzie Snow, Division Director or Jeffry Beard, Perkins Manager.

### *New Resources from Advance CTE*

[New Skills ready network 2021 Annual Report and Snapshots](#) — *New Skills* ready network, launched by JPMorgan Chase & Co. in 2020, bolsters the firm's efforts to support an inclusive economic recovery, as part of both their \$350 million, five-year New Skills at Work initiative to prepare people for the future of work and their new \$30 billion commitment to advance racial equity. Advance CTE and Education Strategy Group (ESG) are working with six sites to improve student completion of high-quality career pathways in six US communities. This month Advance CTE and ESG released a [progress report](#) on the first year of work with the *New Skills* ready network led by state and local leaders across the career pathways ecosystem at the six sites: Boston, MA; Columbus, OH; Dallas, TX; Denver CO; Indianapolis, IN; and Nashville, TN. Additionally, snapshots from each of the *New Skills* ready network sites highlighting early innovations and key project focuses were released:

- [Boston, MA](#)
- [Columbus, OH](#)
- [Dallas, TX](#)
- [Denver, CO](#)
- [Indianapolis, IN](#)
- [Nashville, TN](#)

[Promoting Career Technical Education: Social Media Guide \(2021\)](#) explains how to effectively use social media, how to integrate nationally-tested messages into social media posts, and highlights effective campaigns to promote CTE.

[Intentional Acts of Dual Enrollment: State Strategies for Scaling Early Postsecondary Opportunities in Career Pathways](#) offers strategies and best practices for designing strong statewide policies that remove barriers for participation in early postsecondary education opportunities in postsecondary credential and degree programs.

[Strengthening Career Pathways Through the Power of State and Local Partnerships](#) offers promising practices for leveraging the strengths of state and local leaders to cultivate sustainable, scalable partnerships and advance high-quality career pathways. This resource from Advance CTE is the third in a series of policy briefs centered on strengthening career pathways.

#### *From Our Partner Organizations*

- Research/Report — Community College Research Center — [Investing in Student Success at Community Colleges: Lessons from Research on Guided Pathways](#)
- Guide/Tool — What Works Clearinghouse — [Designing and Delivering Pathways at Community Colleges: A Practice Guide for Educators](#)
- Research/Report — Bellwether Education Partners and American Student Assistance — [Working to Learn and Learning to Work: A State-by-State Analysis of High School Work-Based Learning Policies](#)

#### *Forthcoming in July*

- **Guide/Tools** — *Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education* Repository — This resource will elevate existing national investments in the CTE, education and workforce fields related to the principles of the new shared vision and will highlight current gaps in the field to determine where future investments need to be made.
- **Blog Series** — *New Skills* ready network — This new blog series will elevate *New Skills* ready network site innovations, equitable initiatives, partnerships and resources being pursued to transform career pathways.

**Save the Date!**

**Our virtual Fall Meeting will be on October 27 and 28, 2021.  
Registration opens mid-July 2021.**

### **View from the Hill**

At the end of last month, the White House released its Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) full budget proposal. Differently from prior years, this proposal did not only list requests for the FY22 appropriations bills, but also named requested funding through the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. This request calls for a \$20 million increase (only approximately 1.5%) to the Perkins Basic State Grant, as well as a \$108 million increase for National Programs- of which \$100 million would fund

competitive awards for middle and high school CTE innovation projects aimed at advancing equity and \$8 million would fund technical assistance and grant evaluations. Interestingly, the request also includes a new \$1 billion annually for 10 years to support middle and high school career pathways- this funding would happen separately through the passing of the American Jobs Plan. Advance CTE in partnership with the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) released a statement on this proposal, which can be viewed [here](#).

This month, Advance CTE has advocated for increased funding for CTE through the FY22 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill, including sending a letter to Congress and submitted written testimony.

Advance CTE also endorsed the Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals (PREP) Act. This bill was reintroduced by Senators Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Susan Collins (R-ME), members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee to address teacher and principal shortages. The PREP Act particularly addresses shortages in rural areas, and ways to increase teacher diversity. Senator Kaine is also one of the Co-Chairs of the Congressional CTE Caucus. The legislation would expand the definition of high need districts under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to include schools with teacher shortages in rural communities as well as in “core academic subjects,” which includes CTE.

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 40 national organizations. Our first *CTE Without Limits* video [blog](#) features a panel discussion with three of our vision supporters about the importance of equity across vision principles and what each organization is doing to advance equity in CTE. We hope you enjoy this new blog format! All vision supporters have submitted statements of support and can be found [here](#).

Advance CTE has hosted the first two of five vision Lunch and Learns exploring each of the principles from *CTE Without Limits*. Each session actively engages participants to deepen their understanding and aspiration of one of the vision principles. The first two recordings can be found on the *CTE Without Limits* [webpage](#).

Registration for the third Lunch and Learn is [now open](#).

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:

- Avenue Scholars, Keynote
- Washington Policy Seminar Session “Perkins V State Plans and Dual & Concurrent Enrollment,” National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP)
- Workforce Labor Market Information Committee Meeting, National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- Cross-State College in High School Workshop, College High School Alliance/National Governors Association
- Indiana Youth Apprenticeship Community of Practice, Ascend Indy
- Communicating Career Technical Education: Learner-centered Messages for Effective Program Recruitment, Institute for Citizens and Scholars Media Roundtable
- [CTE Without Limits Lunch and Learn #1](#): Creating a cohesive, flexible and responsive career preparation ecosystem
- [CTE Without Limits Lunch and Learn #2](#): Each learner feels welcome in, is supported by, and has the means to succeed in the career preparation ecosystem
- Strategies for Engaging Priority Populations in Perkins V, Wyoming Department of Education
- Advance CTE Postsecondary Data Quality Initiative June Call, Advance CTE

## Virtual Events Attended:

- National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) Board of Directors Meeting
- Coalition for Workforce Development through Career Technical Education Meeting, ACTE
- Webinar: A Practical Playbook and Meaningful Metrics for Building and Strengthening Students' Networks, Equitable Futures
- National Activities Showcase, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE)
- District-Level Strategies to Advance Equity in Career and Technical Education Programs, REL Central

## Partners Engaged:

- ACTE
- American Institute of Research
- American School Counselors Association
- American Student Assistance
- American Youth Policy Forum
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Career Development Coalition
- College in High School Alliance
- Data Quality Campaign
- Education Strategy Group
- ExcelinEd
- JFF
- NACEP
- National Career Academy Coalition
- National Geographic Learning | Cengage

- National Governors Association
- National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
- National Association of State Workforce Agencies
- National Skills Coalition
- New America
- NOCTI
- OCTAE
- Unmudl
- University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Walton Family Foundation
- Wonder: Strategies for Good

“In many ways the shared vision has redefined equity. All dimensions of equity- educational, racial, socio-economic, gender, and geographic.

-DR. NICOLE SMITH  
CHIEF ECONOMIST  
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER  
ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE”

WITHOUT  
LIMITS

A Shared Vision for  
the Future of Career  
Technical Education

ADVANCE CTE  
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work



Principle 2: Each learner feels welcome in, is supported by and has the means to succeed in the career preparation ecosystem

