

PROGRAM CLASSIFICATIONS

Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education, or CTE, provides cutting edge programs allowing students to explore the many career options available after high school graduation. The focus of CTE is to ensure that all students have access to rigorous, blended college-preparatory and career-oriented programs that lead to marketable skills for the 21st Century. CTE programs offer high tech training with state-of-the-art equipment, college credit for all qualifying programs, job shadowing and internships, and industry certification. CTE is broadly organized in the six program areas:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Business and Marketing Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Health Science and Public Safety
- Information and Media Technologies
- Skilled and Technical Sciences



Each area includes a multitude of specific programs aligned by career cluster and to one or more career pathways. All CTE programs follow a specific course sequence designed to teach the skills required by each industry through applied learning methodology and work-based learning experiences that prepare students for careers in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand fields. Leadership and employability skills are an integral part of CTE curriculum. Students enrolled in a CTE program experience a rigorous program of study which includes sufficient technical challenge to meet state and/or industry-standards. Strong collaborations exist between CTE schools and postsecondary institutions, businesses, and industry partners to ensure that CTE programs are aligned with both college and career readiness standards and the needs of employers, industry, and labor. CTE provides students with work-based learning opportunities that enable them to connect what they are learning to real-life career scenarios and choices. The practical learning experiences that are provided in CTE programs appeal to many students, and certain common elements—the focus on critical thinking, new technologies, real-world settings, hands-on activities, and the application of learning to practical problems—are skills that are relevant to all academic subject areas and can be applied in educational, career, and civic contexts throughout a student's life.