Why Career and Technical Education?



What is CTE?

Career and Technical Education, or CTE, prepares individuals for a wide range of careers that reflect the modern workplace. High quality CTE programs incorporate rigorous academic and technical standards, as well as critical workplace skills such as problem solving, communication, and teamwork to ensure career and college success for its students.

CTE is:

- Critical to ensuring that the United States leads in global competitiveness.
- Actively partnering with employers to design and provide high-quality, dynamic programs.
- Preparing students to succeed in further education and careers.
- Delivered through comprehensive programs of study aligned to The National Career Clusters framework.
- A results-driven system that demonstrates a positive return on investment.

Two-thirds of students in high school participate in career and technical education courses; in fields like agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, business and information technology, health science, marketing and entrepreneurship, and technology and engineering. An up-close analysis of CTE data indicates that CTE Concentrators(students who take three or more CTE Courses) have a higher graduation rate than students who are non-CTE concentrators while in high school. As this graph illustrates, Wisconsin's investment in career and technical education is leading more students to high school graduation.

CTE Graduation Rate





