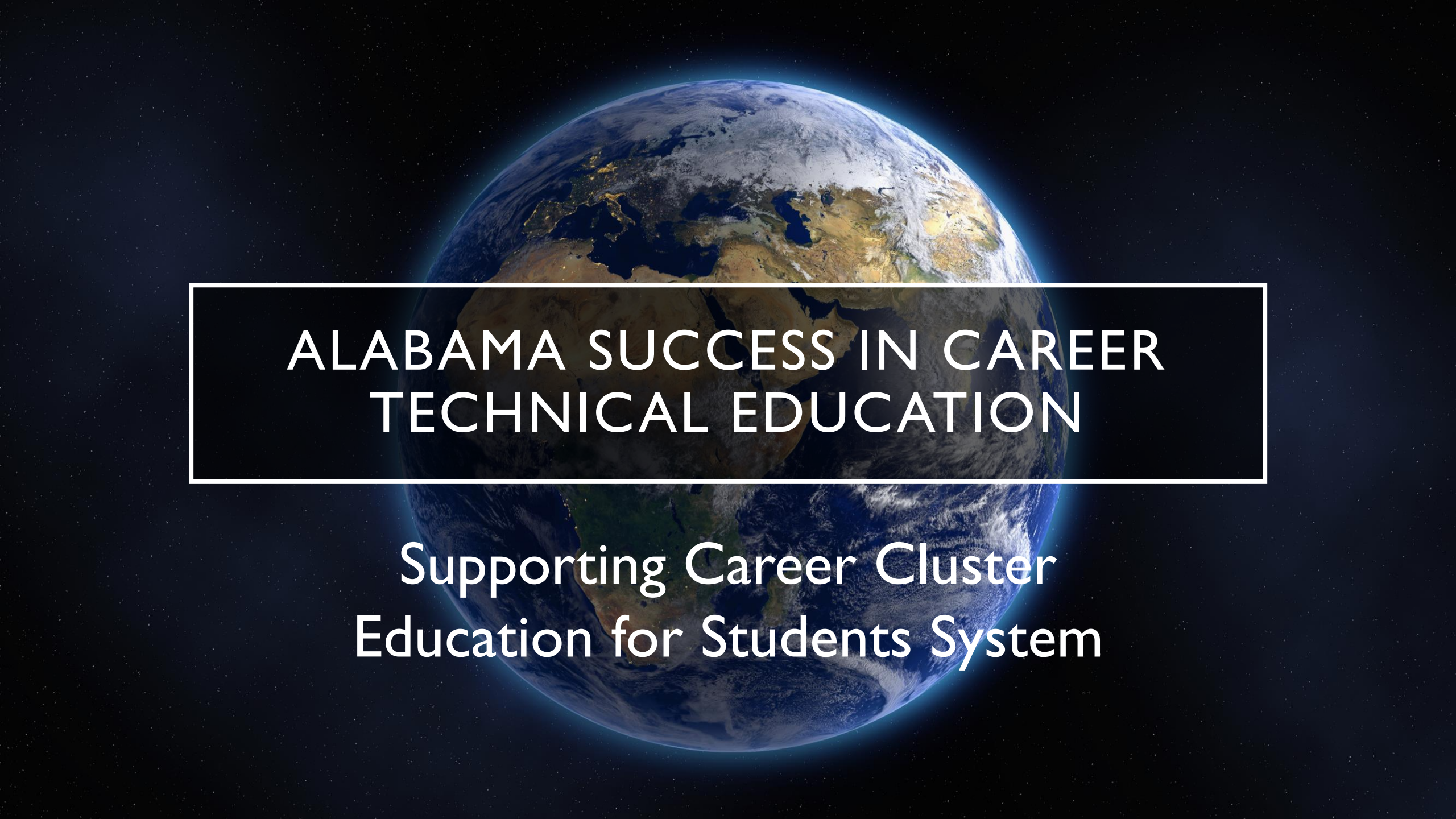




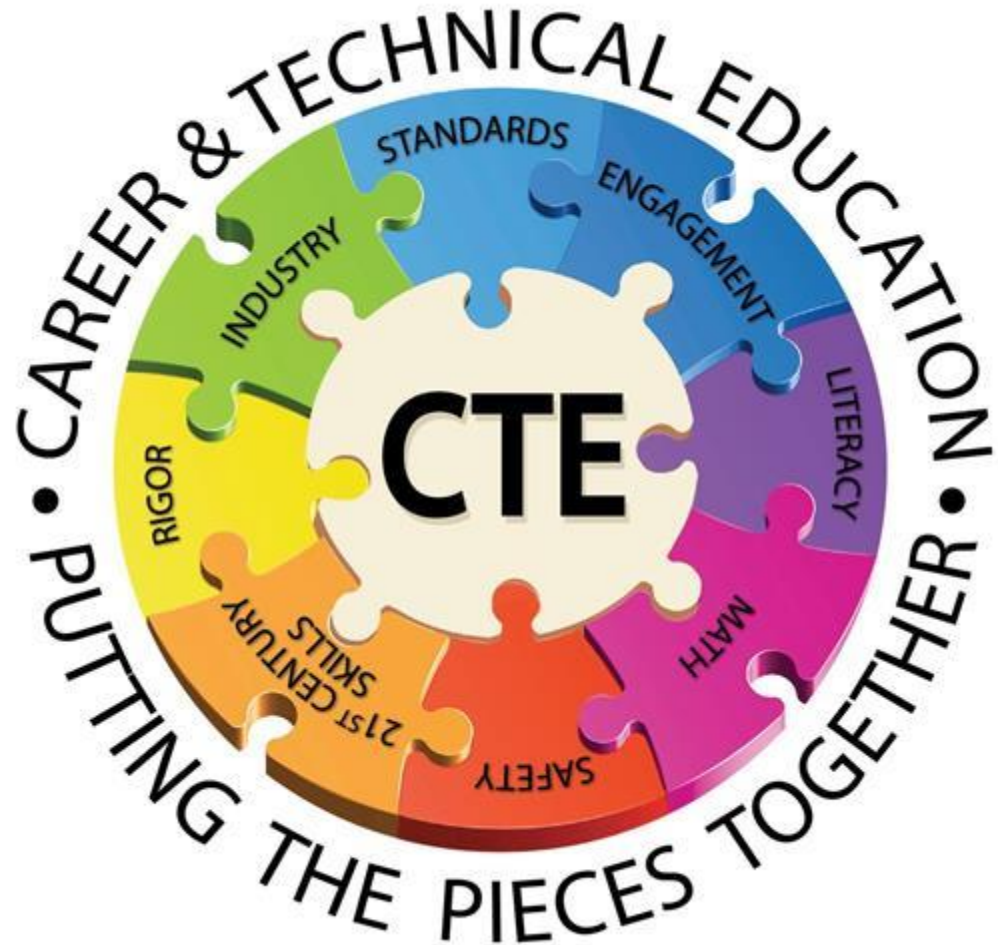
ALABAMA SUCCESS IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Supporting Career Cluster
Education for Students System

PREPARING STUDENT TO REACH THEIR GREATEST POTENTIAL

Alabama SUCCESS
stands for-

**Supporting
Career Cluster
Education for
Students System**



DISCOVER HOW CAREER CLUSTERS CAN WORK FOR EVERY STUDENT



WHAT IS A CAREER CLUSTER?

- A career cluster is a way to organize a student's program of study to prepare him or her for further education and/or employment in a field such as health care, business, or manufacturing.
- Clusters help students discover career pathways so they can be fully prepared for the fields they want to pursue.
- The cluster system offers students an engaging, flexible way to look at different careers and decide what works best for them.
- Clusters help students work toward a definite purpose in high school, instead of waiting until college to pursue their career goals.

SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

- Every Alabama student deserves a chance to participate and excel in the global workplace.
- Career clusters will make discussing and deciding upon a student's career path much easier.
- Whether a student wishes to attend a postsecondary/higher education institution or enter the workforce right after high school, career clusters give them a clear picture of the steps they must take to achieve their dreams.

CREATING LIFELONG LEARNERS

- Career clusters mean all doors are open to all students.
- A student who decides to enter the workforce after high school has the freedom to continue his or her education whenever and however, he or she chooses.
- Career clusters give students the freedom to pursue new interests and develop their unexplored abilities.
- Students can turn their passions into professions and, in doing so, learn to love learning.
- The cluster system offers students a fresh, exiting way to think about their education and their futures.

FINDING A FUTURE

- Career clusters help students of all ages find their place in the world.
- Students have diverse learning styles and life goals, and career clusters are designed to accommodate a wide variety of plans and achievements.



EARNING COLLEGE CREDITS

- Articulation agreements between high schools and community colleges
 - Alabama has strong statewide articulation agreements, which enable students to complete a sequence of academic and technical coursework starting in high school and continuing through a community college located anywhere in the state.
- Dual enrollment/dual credit programs
 - These programs are established between Alabama community colleges and universities and local boards of education to allow high school students to enroll in certain approved college-level courses concurrently with high school classes to receive both high school and college credit.
- Local community colleges
 - These colleges offer a wealth of low-cost and no-cost learning opportunities for students, parents, and counselors.
 - Alabama's college system provides an affordable option, often close to home, for students to earn an associate's degree or certificate, launch a career, or earn the core credits needed to transfer to a four-year institution.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- The support of Alabama's co-curricular programs and articulation agreements enable students to pursue any cluster they choose, even if it is not specifically offered at their schools.
- Here are some examples of career and technical student organizations (CTSOs) in Alabama that can help round out a student's career cluster experience.



CTE SKILLS LEARNED WILL CONTINUE AT A TWO- OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE, AND FOR OTHERS LEARNING WILL CONTINUE IN AN APPRENTICESHIP, IN THE MILITARY, OR THROUGH ON-THE-JOB TRAINING. WHEREVER STUDENTS' CHOSEN PATHS LEAD THEM, ALABAMA SUCCESS IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE EACH ONE FOR A FULFILLING FUTURE IN A CAREER THAT MATCHES THEIR SKILLS, INTERESTS, AND GOALS.

