

Career Technical Education

National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)

What is Career Technical Education (CTE)?

CTE provides students with opportunities to learn core academics and valuable workforce skills in an engaging way. CTE links what students learn in the classroom with what they need to succeed in the real world.

Does CTE prepare students for college or career?

Both. Students can no longer choose between college or career. In this global economy, individuals at some point in their lives will need some form of postsecondary education to secure a job that earns them a meaningful income. Postsecondary education includes technical schools, community colleges, universities, apprenticeship programs and more.

Quality CTE implements programs of study as a framework to bridge the curriculum and efforts between secondary and postsecondary institutions.

Who are CTE students?

CTE students are middle school, high school and postsecondary students of all ages who are lifelong learners. They seek opportunities to connect their classroom work with their career goals.

Who creates CTE programs?

A strong network of leaders from secondary and postsecondary institutions, and business and industry develop quality CTE programs. Stakeholders partner to ensure programs prepare students with the knowledge and skills that are demanded in the global economy.

What types of careers does CTE cover?

The list is long and diverse. CTE prepares students for many of the jobs forecasted to experience the fastest growth in the coming years. CTE programs train students in fields such as health care, business, green energy, arts, agriculture and information technology.