



CTE Pathways: Connecting High School to College and Career

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS A PATHWAY?

A Pathway is a sequence of courses within a student's area of interest. A Pathway connects from high school to college for a certificate, a degree and/or career.

HOW ARE PATHWAYS BENEFICIAL TO STUDENTS?

Many Pathways offer concurrent enrollment credit. A Pathway will save students time and money towards training and/or a college degree.

WHY SHOULD STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CTE CAREER PATHWAYS?

1. To acquire technical skills training.
2. To participate in hands-on learning.
3. To jump-start their future career.
4. To earn college credit while in high school.
5. To save time and money!

HOW DO CTE PATHWAYS CONNECT TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION?

CTE Pathways help match education and workplace needs through partnerships with post-secondary institutions, the school districts, business, and industry.

CTE Career Pathways are the maps that can help guide students to:

- High school courses.
- Post-secondary options most relevant to their chosen career destination.

WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN A CTE PATHWAY?

- Maximize opportunities for students.
- Increase student awareness of careers and education and training.
- Strengthen the planning process using a Student Education Occupation Plan (SEOP).

HOW ARE CTE PATHWAYS RELEVANT TO STUDENTS?

- Ease student transitions between secondary and post-secondary education.
- Align training with employer needs.
- Provide strong academic skills and real-world problem solving skills.

ARE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT CLASSES INCLUDED IN A CTE PATHWAY?

Yes! CTE Pathways include concurrent enrollment courses, and credits earned can be transferred to a college or university.

IN UTAH, WHAT NUMBER OF STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN CTE COURSES?

- 71,101 males
- 69,945 females
- 137,046 9th-12th graders

WHAT DO CTE PATHWAYS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR?

Post-secondary education. High school students enrolled in CTE Pathways receive advanced occupational training to pursue post-secondary certificates and degrees.

WHAT DOES POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION MEAN?

Post-secondary education means a one-year certificate, a two-year associate or technical degree or a four-year bachelor's degree.

WHAT DOES A PATHWAY LOOK LIKE?

A Pathway includes both foundation and elective courses within a student's area of interest. Students are required to earn a specific number of foundation and elective credits in order to be considered a Pathway completer.

HOW MANY CREDITS DOES A STUDENT NEED TO BE A PATHWAY COMPLETER?

A student needs 3.00 graduation credits to be a Pathway completer.

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF JOBS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TRAINING BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL?

Ninety percent of jobs require additional training beyond high school.

IN UTAH, HOW MANY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS COMPLETE A SPECIFIC CTE PATHWAY?

In 2007-2008, over 8,000 Utah students completed a specific CTE Pathway.

HOW MANY CTE PATHWAYS ARE THERE IN UTAH?

Utah recognizes over 60 career Pathways within eight Areas of Study.

WHAT ARE THE CTE AREAS OF STUDY?

- Agricultural Education
- Business Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Health Science Education
- Information Technology Education
- Marketing Education
- Skilled and Technical Sciences Education
- Technology and Engineering Education

WHAT PATHWAYS ARE OFFERED THROUGH CTE?

For a complete listing of CTE Pathways offered, talk to your high school counselor or access our Web site: www.utahcte.org.

ARE CTE PATHWAYS DIFFERENT FROM THE NATIONAL CAREER CLUSTERS?

No.

Each CTE Pathway is based on national skills standards and the national career clusters preparing students with academic and hands-on learning in order to successfully transition from high school to post-secondary education.

ARE STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR COMPLETING A CTE PATHWAY?

Yes.

An award program has been launched to recognize those students who successfully complete a CTE Pathway. This award is called the Pathway Completer Recognition Award. Students should talk to their school counselor about applying for this award.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT CTE AND CTE PATHWAYS?

Talk to your high school counselor or contact the Utah State Office of Education, or access our Web site: www.utahcte.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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