

SUPPORTING PROGRAMS

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Giving Students the Edge

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education (CTE) lays out clear Pathways to learning and career options. Through participation in CTE, you will attain technical skills and academic knowledge needed to prepare for future employment and/or a successful transition to post-secondary education.

The structured training you receive in CTE will give you the tools needed to be successful in a job after high school and/or further your post-secondary education, whether technical school, two-year college, or four-year college. You are encouraged to explore various areas of study and to develop the essential skills to enter today's competitive job market with confidence.

High school CTE programs will prepare you for the many high paying, high-tech jobs requiring less than a bachelor's degree.

Nationally there are 11 million secondary and post-secondary CTE students. In Utah, over 198,000 participate in CTE (grades 7–12).

COLLEGE PATHWAYS

Earn College Credit While in High School

College Pathways provide you with the opportunity to transition to college, enabling you to complete your education and training more rapidly, with more advanced skills and a reduction in costs—saving time and money.

Advantages of College Pathways

- ▶ Assistance in selecting a possible career
- ▶ Assistance in selecting high school concurrent courses that will not need to be duplicated in college
- ▶ An understanding of how courses fit with your future
- ▶ A related work-based learning experience
- ▶ Academic and technical courses taught in an applied, easy-to-understand way
- ▶ An agreement with colleges and technical institutions to accept your high school courses toward a two-year or four-year degree

College pathways will put you on the fast-track to earning an industry license or associate's degree.

COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING & GUIDANCE

Planning for Utah's Future, One Student at a Time

The single most important ingredient in planning your future is YOU! **Begin planning** as early as possible for your post-high-school education.

Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance will assist you, through specific self-appraisal and self-improvement activities, to effectively plan your personal education and career goals. The program provides you with decision-making and planning skills in order to prepare for your future and achieve your goals.

Through an ongoing partnership involving you, your parents, and your school counselor, you will be guided through creating a Student Education Occupation Plan (SEOP). An SEOP is a primary strategy for recognizing your accomplishments and strengths for planning, monitoring, and managing education and career development.

It is never too early to start planning for life after high school. The harder and smarter you work, the more questions you will ask, and the more information you have now, the more opportunities you will have later.

SKILL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Verifying Technical Skill Attainment

The Skill Certificate Program provides you with opportunities to receive a “skill certificate” verifying skill attainment in courses and programs in any of the nine areas of study.

- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Business
- ▶ Family and Consumer Sciences
- ▶ Health Science and Technology
- ▶ Information Technology
- ▶ Marketing
- ▶ Skilled and Technical Sciences
- ▶ Technology and Engineering

By demonstrating substantial skill at 80 percent or above on skill certificate competency tests, you will receive a skill certificate verifying your technical skill achievement. This skill certificate will give you an advantage as you pursue a post-secondary education and/or interview for a job.

WORK-BASED LEARNING

Connecting the Community and the Classroom

Work-Based Learning gives you the opportunity to learn a variety of skills by expanding the walls of classroom learning to include the community.

You will learn a variety of skills through rigorous academic preparation with hands-on-career development experiences. Under the guidance of adult mentors, you'll learn how to work in teams, solve problems, and meet employers' expectations.

Work-Based Learning Activities:

- ▶ Apprenticeships
- ▶ Career fairs
- ▶ Clinical work experiences
- ▶ Cooperative work experiences
- ▶ Field studies
- ▶ Guest speakers
- ▶ Job shadows
- ▶ School-based enterprises
- ▶ Service learning
- ▶ Student internships

JOB SKILLS

PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE

Just a few years ago, companies provided on-the-job training for employees to perform jobs that lasted for years. However, in today's competitive job market, jobs require more technical skills, job descriptions change frequently, occupations become obsolete, downsizing occurs, new jobs are invented, and unskilled work goes to cheap labor overseas.

Now is the time to plan for your future! Career and Technical Education (CTE) will guide you in making critical decisions that will have an impact on your technical training and career goals, leading you on the pathway to success.

By participating in CTE, you will develop workplace skills through applied, contextual academics and integrated instruction in a coherent sequence of courses.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can take CTE classes?

Junior high and high school students enrolled in any of the 141 middle schools and 109 high schools in Utah can take CTE classes.

What subject areas are covered by CTE?

- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Business
- ▶ Family and Consumer Sciences
- ▶ Health Sciences and Technology
- ▶ Information Technology
- ▶ Marketing
- ▶ Skilled and Technical Sciences
- ▶ Technology and Engineering

Is CTE only for students who are not college-bound?

No. Career and Technical Education is essential for all students, providing them with a foundation of academic knowledge and essential technical skills. CTE courses and programs introduce you to career options and assist you in making informed education choices.

FACTS ABOUT CTE

Did You Know?

High school CTE programs prepare you for the many high-paying, high-tech jobs requiring less than a bachelor's degree.

While about 65.8 percent of all jobs require some post-secondary training, only 20.8 percent of all jobs in Utah require at least a bachelor's degree.

Taking CTE courses in school is a proven means of maximizing income and employment potential.

CTE graduates find employment 2.2 times faster than graduates from general education programs.

Statistics indicate that CTE graduates are worth higher wages because they are more productive than other workers.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 18 out of the 20 fastest-growing occupations within the next decade will require Career and Technical Education.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

What CTE Can Do for You

- ▶ CTE expands your options.
- ▶ CTE offers you a path to success.
- ▶ CTE challenges you to think.
- ▶ CTE tests your career interests before college.
- ▶ CTE provides concurrent enrollment.
- ▶ CTE helps you pay for college.
- ▶ CTE broadens lifelong career and education options.
- ▶ CTE helps you acquire life skills that apply to any career.

Communications

Teamwork

Leadership

Goal setting

Resource management

Using technology

Personal responsibility

Higher-order thinking



For detailed information about the above provisions, ask your school counselor for the CTE brochure, *Job Skills—A Guide for Teens and Parents*.