

February 2010 National Career Technical Education Month

“Invest in Your Future”

Our Mission:

Career and Technical Education (CTE) creates pathways to success for every secondary student by providing him or her with the technical skills and academic knowledge needed to prepare for future employment and/or a successful transition to post-secondary education.

CTE provides students with technical training to prepare for a successful career. The structured training each student receives gives him or her the tools needed to be successful in a job after high school and/or further his or her post-secondary education, whether technical school, two-year college, or four-year college. Each student is encouraged to explore various areas of study and to develop the essential skills to enter today’s competitive job market with confidence.

Career and Technical Education is an essential component of the total educational system in California and is critical to the country’s ability to compete in a global economy.

The role of Career Technical Education is to:

- Provide career and technical education in the state’s K-12 system of public education.
- Introduce students to career options.
- Assist in development of career choices.
- Provide technical skills.
- Provide occupation-specific skills.
- Prepare students for further education and training through Pathways.

Nationally, there are 15.6 million secondary and postsecondary career and technical education students.

Is there any proof CTE works? Yes.

- Students who take two or more CTE courses are less likely to drop out of high school.
- High school CTE programs prepare students for the many high-paying, high-tech jobs requiring less than a bachelor’s degree.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 18 of the 20 fastest growing occupations within the next decade will require career and technical education.

Congress Supports CTE. According to their resolution H. Res 930, “the United States House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Career and Technical Education month;

(2) recognizes the importance of career and technical education in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce in America; and

(3) encourages educators, counselors, and administrators to promote career and technical education as an option to students.

For more information on career and technical education, visit the ACTE Web site at www.acteonline.org.