

Students in Career and Technical Education have the opportunity to participate in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs), thus engaging in leadership activities as an integral part of the instructional program.

CTSOs present organized activities for students to gain personal and leadership skills, making them more employable, preparing them to become productive citizens, and assisting them in assuming positive roles in the home and community. They are not after-school clubs where only a few CTE students belong, but a powerful instructional tool integrated into the CTE classroom. CTSOs help students develop leadership skills and positive work values, while reinforcing the Career and Technical Education curriculum.

DECA—An association of marketing students. DECA is a student leadership organization that provides hands-on leadership development. Students learn how to develop, price, place, and promote products in the right business setting. The organization builds self-confidence, positive work attitudes, and communication skills. [Utah has 2,898 members in 71 chapters.](#)

In 2019, a group of DECA student members participated in competitive events at the DECA International Career Development Conference. Six secondary student members placed in the top ten.

EDUCATORS RISING—Educators Rising (EdRising) is dedicated to ensure that the future is full of high-quality educators. EdRising offers a variety of opportunities for students to take leadership roles and represent the future of the teaching profession,

Utah joined EdRising in 2019 and held their first state competition in March 2020.

FBLA—Future Business Leaders of America. FBLA provides students with opportunities for leadership, community involvement, business partnerships, and competition with other students in events ranging from Public Speaking to Job Interview to Parliamentary Procedures. [Utah has 2,946 members in 119 chapters.](#)

In 2019, twenty-three secondary student members placed in the top ten in the nation for their extraordinary achievement in their FBLA events at the FBLA National Leadership Conference.

FCCLA—Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. FCCLA provides students with opportunities to attain knowledge, skills, and leadership characteristics necessary to succeed in life and careers through Family and Consumer Sciences education. [Utah has 2,855 members in 115 chapters.](#)

In 2019, 189 student members competed in 30 different STAR Events at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference. Of these students, 86 received gold medals, 85 received silver medals, and 18 received bronze medals.

FFA—The organization for agricultural education students. FFA is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. [Utah has 6,567 members in 89 chapters.](#)

In October 2019, at the National FFA Convention and Expo student members were recognized for individual accomplishments. Ninety-one members received the American FFA degree—the highest recognition an FFA member can receive.

HOSA—Health Occupations Students of America. HOSA provides students with opportunities to attain the knowledge, skills and leadership characteristics necessary to succeed in a health care profession, through leadership training, career training, and service projects. [Utah has 4,235 members in 100 chapters.](#)

In 2019, more than 200 student members participated in competitive events at the HOSA National Leadership Conference. Forty-nine secondary and post-secondary student members placed in the top ten in a variety of healthcare-related competitions.

SkillsUSA—Skilled and Technical Sciences Student Organization. SkillsUSA provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship, and character development. The organization builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes, and communication skills. It emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, lifelong education and pride in the dignity of work. [Utah has 1,528 members in 161 chapters.](#)

In 2019, 160 secondary and postsecondary SkillsUSA student members competed in 34 hands-on skilled and technical competitive events at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Forty-nine students were medalists, with 24 receiving gold medals. Utah ranked third in medals received for any one state.

TSA—Technology Student Association. TSA is the only student organization dedicated exclusively to students enrolled in technology and engineering classes in grades 7-12. TSA fosters personal growth, leadership training, career development, teamwork, community service, competitive events, and student recognition to supplement the curriculum in technology and engineering. Leadership opportunities are available at the local, state, or national levels. [Utah has 2,239 members in 68 chapters.](#)

In 2019, fifteen middle/junior high and high school TSA student members placed in the top ten in the nation for their exceptional achievement in technology-based competitive events at the National TSA Leadership Conference. Each event was based on principles and concepts learned through projects during the school year in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) subjects.

[Career and Technical Education makes an impact on youth and adults while preparing them for successful careers. CTE is an essential component of the total educational system in Utah and is critical to the country's ability to compete in a global economy.](#)

Our vision is to see that every student has the opportunity to explore a variety of career areas, throughout high school, that will equip him or her with the academic knowledge, technical and employability skills vital for entry into the evolving workforce.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION



Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value.



Our story includes the success of students across the state and how they have been affected by Career and Technical Education.



What Students Are Saying About CTE

CTE provides hands-on learning opportunities for students in a variety of settings and levels, including middle school/junior high career exploration, secondary programs, postsecondary certificates and degrees, and customized training for employees in the workplace. Utah CTE has created 34 Career Pathways 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 postsecondary education.



"Because of the CTE courses I have taken, the safety certifications I have earned, and my internship, Jiffy Lube hired me on the spot."

Trever Gardner
Skilled and Technical Sciences Education

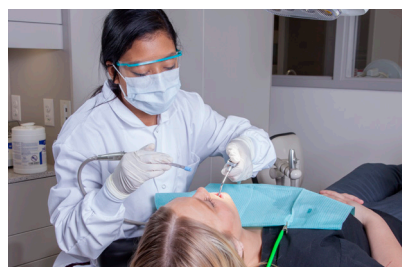


"By taking the CNA and EMT courses in high school, I'm better prepared to enter the workforce. These courses allowed me to gain hands-on learning and on-the-job training through internships, and receive instruction from teachers who work in the field."

Taylor Brown
Health Science Education



68.7 percent of students who concentrated in a CTE Career Pathway placed in postsecondary education, advanced training, military service, or employment. (October 1 - December 31, 2017-2018)



"The CTE courses I have taken prepared me for my chosen career path because I have received knowledge and training in business management and restaurant fundamentals."

Alexis Kingery
Business and Marketing Education



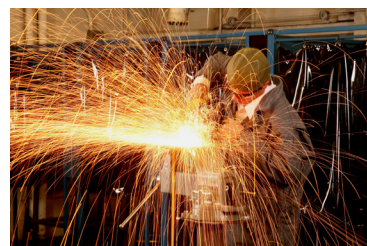
CTE reduces the workforce gap by providing long-term job education and skills training for students, enabling them to reach their full potential.

"My CTE classes and my leadership experience in 4-H and FFA laid a strong foundation which I can build upon. I plan to go to college to complete a teaching degree"

Kaitlin Hallam
Agricultural Education



CTE uses a hands-on approach that teaching experts believe is more effective with many students than reading or listening to lectures alone.



There are many high-tech jobs in Utah that students can perform as a result of taking CTE courses while in high school.

"CTE courses prepared me for entering my chosen field of study. The knowledge from these classes has been and will be beneficial to my success in college."

Thomas Jones
Information Technology Education

In 2018-2019, 52 percent of students concentrated in a CTE Career Pathway. A concentrator is a student who has completed 1.5 credits in a single CTE program of study.

21% of students completed a CTE Career Pathway. A completer is a student who has completed 3.0 credits in a single CTE program of study.

More than 85 percent of CTE students are planning to continue on to postsecondary education.

myCollegeOptions.org/ACTE Cooperative Research Program, 2015.

"I have chosen to work toward a bachelor's degree in marketing because of the CTE Pathway I was involved in throughout high school."

Madison Warner
Business and Marketing Education

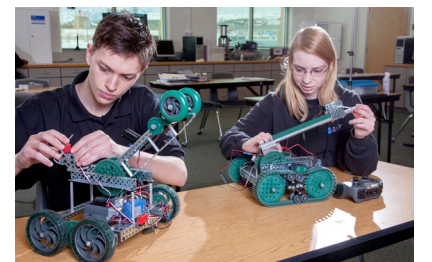


A CTE Career Pathway is a method of searching for a career that fits a student's interests and lifestyle and allows him or her to build academic courses around it. Career Pathways ensure that students will be prepared to take advantage of the full range of postsecondary options, including on-the-job training, certification programs, and two- and four-year college degrees.



"CTE classes have helped me think more like an engineer and helped me open my mind to the new things that are possible."

Michael Peters
Technology and Engineering Education



Today's best CTE programs do a better job of preparing many students for college and career than traditional academics-only programs.

Harvard Graduate School of Education Pathways to Prosperity Project, 2011.



"The CTE classes I have taken throughout high school have introduced me to my dream career path. After taking child development I decided I wanted a career working with children."

Kayla Clopten
Family and Consumer Sciences Education

