



Statewide Strategic Plan for Career and Technical Education



Mission

Career and Technical Education is an innovator and leader in education in Washington that offers courses of study to ensure students explore, compete, and succeed as lifelong learners in the world of work.

Vision

Education and workforce leaders partner to engage students and prepare them for life success through multiple career pathways that are relevant to student interests and responsive to the needs of employers and the economy.

The solution is threefold:

1. Robust, relevant, rigorous and academic career and technical education, including strong implementation and integration of the 21st Century Skills and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) across K–12 programs and disciplines, to prepare students for postsecondary education they will need

2. Targeted, 21st century-oriented skill training, such as integration of the 21st Century Skills, to meet education requirements for jobs today and tomorrow

3. Career planning for all students, regardless of career or postsecondary path, to ready all students for the world of work

The Committee identified four major goals to help shape the CTE program in Washington into a responsive, powerful vehicle to help students achieve and overcome some of the barriers we currently face.

Goal One:

Improve the access to and quality of CTE, which prepares students for lifelong learning and employment through the development of adaptable skills and knowledge

Goal Two:

Ensure that every student receives comprehensive career guidance that leads to a personalized Program of Study (POS)

Goal Three:

Require CTE teachers and administrators to be fully prepared and supported in their roles as educator instructional leaders

Goal Four:

Ensure that CTE is a results-driven education system and demonstrates a positive return on investment

Fully prepared and supported educators and instructional leaders

- Funding to deliver professional development to teachers, counselors, and administrators
- Fund leadership academy for CTE administrators
- Attach CTE Director certification to enhanced CTE funding
- Develop new CTE certification programs in collaboration with the Professional Educator Standards Board

Business/Industry Partnerships

- Creation of a statewide database that connects student and teachers to job shadow/internship opportunities
- Incentives for businesses providing industry-based worksite learning activities
- Evaluate and reduce barriers for external partners to provide career exploration opportunities
- Include Workforce Development Councils as a conduit for business/industry/education partner engagement
- Expand the number of industry mentors, career and graduation coaches, on-site internships, and teacher externships available to students and teachers

Career Counseling and Guidance

- Career exploration beginning at 6th grade
- Integrate career exploration into middle school core curriculum
- Expand middle and high school level comprehensive guidance and planning programs
- Build economic awareness into comprehensive career guidance

Graduation Requirement/Course Equivalencies

- State model course equivalencies
- Provide flexibility within graduation requirements to allow students to access Career and Technical Education

Secondary-Post Secondary Programs of Study

- Charge education and workforce agencies to develop statewide articulations from high school to postsecondary education

CTE Course Planning

- All CTE courses are a sequential part of a Program of Study (High School and Beyond Plan)
- Require all CTE programs to have industry validated technical skills that align with industry standards
- Funding to align all CTE programs to the Common Career Technical Core standards
- Expand middle school CTE offerings to increase career awareness opportunities

CTE Funding

- Funding for curriculum and equipment to enable CTE curriculum to be delivered using current and emerging technologies
- Expand funding to support student leadership and career exploration opportunities through CTSOs

Certifications

- Work with business/industry to ensure that the certifications earned by students are valued and validated by the labor market
- CTE programs lead to student certification
- Fund end of course skill certificate exam program for CTE

CTE needs to be an integral part of every student's education in order that every student might graduate from high school globally competitive for work, prepared postsecondary education, and ready for life as positive, contributing members of society in the 21st century.



Thank You

