

What is Career and Technical Education?



Career and Technical Education (CTE) prepares students for high-skill, high-wage, in-demand employment. CTE programs provide learners with the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to thrive in their chosen career.

Students take specialized courses, in addition to the required courses in core academic subjects; participate in work-based learning; engage with mentors; and practice what they are learning through hands-on projects. Middle and high school CTE programs in Illinois serve more than 283,000 students.

Students often have opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials and college credits while in high school. Examples of industry-based certification include: *Certified Nurse Assistant, Microsoft Office Specialist, Food Handler, OSHA 10 Hour Safety.*

Students benefit from career connected learning that emphasizes real-world skills within a selected career focus. Students also gain practical knowledge while discovering and preparing for success in potential careers.

CTE is Career Connected Learning

WWW.ISBE.NET/CTE

Career Awareness with Career Fairs, Presentations
Workplace Tours and Career Assessments

Career Exploration including Informational
Interviews, Job Shadowing and Industry-based
Design Competitions

Career Development with Cooperative Workplace
Learning, Internships, Youth Apprenticeships

Career Skills Training & Education through Clinical
Experiences and On-the-Job Training and Industry-
based Certifications

CTE Can Benefit You !!!

- ★ **Enhanced problem-solving**
CTE classes build technical skills and a solid knowledge base with challenging coursework
- ★ **CTE Career pathways**
Sequences of coursework and experiences directly connected to real job opportunities
- ★ **Build upon your personal traits**
Participating in “hands-on” opportunities increases your personal talents and abilities
- ★ **Better self-image**
With improved abilities your confidence and self-esteem rise improving your chances to be successful
- ★ **Earn while you learn**
Jump start your career in high school by learning skills and earning credentials
- ★ **Be a leader**
Career and Technical Education Student Organizations offer you the opportunity to gain leadership and social skills through regional competitions and community service

CTE Serves ALL Illinois Students!

Support services are in place to help all students receive the most out of career and technical education classes. These services are individually designed for a variety of special needs and may be received from several sources.

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Updated 1/2020

Sources include: Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Community College Board
Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V)

CTE ~ Education That Works !

Connect your high school learning experience with the high-skill, high-wage and in-demand career opportunities available in east central Illinois. Talk with your Parent/s and School Counselor about your individual career plan and the courses you should take to reach your goals.

Human & Public Services

Education, Training, Child Care Worker, Teacher, Human Services, Social Worker, Cosmetologist, Law, Public Safety, Firefighter, Paralegal, Police Officer

Health Sciences & Technology

Registered Nurse, Certified Nurse Assistant, Dentist, X-Ray Technician, Pharmacist, Optometrist, Respiratory Therapist, Home Health Aide, Physical Therapist Assistant



Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Grain/Livestock Farmer, Food Inspector, Horticulturalist, Veterinarian, Ag Service Technician, Organic Farmer, Crop Specialist, Turf Management, Arborist



Information Technology

Software Engineer, Web Developer, Computer Systems Analyst, Computer Support Specialist, Network Administrator

Arts & Communication

Audio and Video Equipment Tech, Graphic Designer, Technical Writer, Public Relations Specialist



Finance & Business Services

Chef, Waitress, Food Service Manager, Auditor, Event Planner, Human Resource Manager, Accountant, Financial Planner, Loan Officer, Sales, Marketing Manager



Manufacturing, Engineering, Technology & Trades

CNC Operator, Welder, Construction Manager, Architect, Cabinet Maker, Electrician, Carpenter, Machine Operator, Automotive Technician, Diesel Mechanic, Robotics Tech, Chemical Engineer, Pilot, Truck Driver



Think...Nontraditional

Nontraditional Careers are skilled occupations in which a small percentage (fewer than 25%) of one gender are employed.

Examples of Nontraditional Careers:

Women - Airline Pilot, Mechanic, Operator, Electrician, Firefighter, Engineer

Men - Elementary Teacher, Nurse, Speech Pathologist, Childcare Worker, Dietician

Advantages of a Nontraditional Career:

Higher Pay

Many nontraditional careers have higher salaries and better benefits compared to other occupations that require the same level of education.

Technical Skills

Nontraditional careers often require specialized training, which promotes the development of the technical skills needed to succeed in the workforce.

Increased Job Satisfaction

Careers chosen on the basis of individual personal characteristics and strengths tend to provide increased job satisfaction.