



EXPLORE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Is CTE right for you?

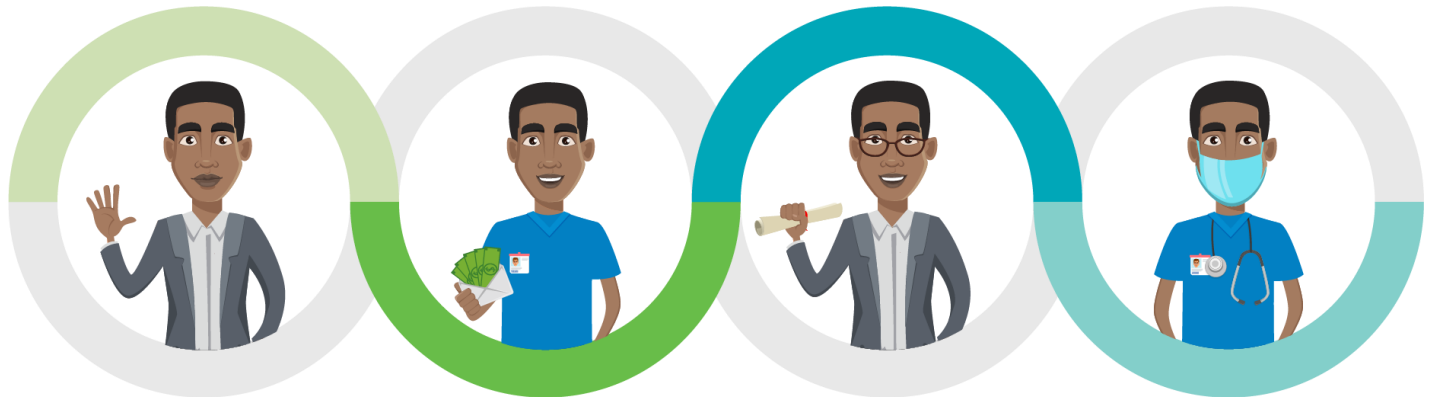
Career and technical education (CTE) involves educational programs that provide students with the technical and professional skills to succeed in the workplace and throughout their career. CTE programs are designed to meet the needs of employers while providing pathways to lifelong learning and family-sustaining careers, often taught through hands-on learning and on-the-job experience. Postsecondary CTE is shorter than a four-year degree and often means you get into a career quicker and with less debt. CTE isn't the right option for everyone, but it can be the right path for students interested in getting into the workforce quickly or those interested in certain programs.

What kinds of CTE programs can I pursue?

CTE encompasses a wide variety of career options, from healthcare to business to the skilled trades. And the education aspect isn't what you might expect—CTE programs often include the most modern learning technology and a hands-on environment that gives you experience in a setting similar to the one you'll encounter after graduation. Here are examples of some CTE programs:

- Medical Assistant
- Dental Assistant
- Surgical Technician
- Pharmacy Technician
- Welder
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Technician
- Electrical Technician
- Computer Information Technology
- Construction/Carpenter

CTE is a great way to start on the path to future degrees and credentials.



Kendrick completes a 10-month CTE program in medical assisting.

He works as a medical assistant making money and gaining experience in healthcare delivery.

He is also going to school to get a bachelor's degree in nursing.

He used CTE as a starting point for a future career, lifelong learning and high earning potential.

CTE fills in-demand jobs.

CTE also makes sense for the job market. Nationwide, some of the most in-demand jobs can be filled by workers with a CTE credential, such as medical assistants, nurses, carpenters and IT workers (CareerCast 2019).

Questions? Think CTE might be the right path for you? Talk to your school counselor to learn more about CTE options in your area.