

What you need to know about Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Courses in middle and high school that seek to expose and **prepare students for careers** aligned to industry needs; designed as sequenced courses of study, CTE **courses can lead to industry certifications** and apprenticeships; students are not required to take CTE courses but CTE courses can count toward a student's required 3 elective courses needed for graduation

CTE Career Clusters in Tennessee



- Advanced Manufacturing
- Government & Public Administration
- Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
- Health Science
- Architecture & Construction
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, & Communications
- Human Services
- Business Management & Administration
- Information Technology
- Education & Training
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security
- Finance
- Marketing, Distribution, & Logistics
- STEM
- Transportation

Example of a High School Pathway in Machining Technology in the Advanced Manufacturing CTE Program of Study

Course	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Machining I	Principles of Machining II	Manufacturing Practicum
Certification	Precision Measurement Instruments	Production Certification: Safety Module	Production Certification: Quality Practices and Measurement	Production Certification: Manufacturing Processes and Production

3 of 5 required courses to become a Certified Production Technician

What are barriers to high-quality CTE pathways?

Teacher recruitment

Districts compete with corporations for CTE teachers, who can often make much more money in the private sector

Industry alignment

District offerings may misalign with the needs of the local business community or not lead to high-wage, high-demand jobs

Antiquated stigmas

Negative perceptions about jobs that stem from CTE paths prevent some students from exploring options