



CTE DIRECTIONS

Career and Technical Education (CTE) News and Information

December 2024

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

Special Populations Best Practice – Military-Connected Learners

As we continue to highlight evidence-based practices, this month we highlight the special population of Military-Connected Learners in Career and Technical Education. Perkins V defines military-connected learners as youth with a parent/guardian who is a member of the armed forces (referring to the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, or Coast Guard) and is on active duty. Active duty does not include full-time National Guard duty.

In these evidence-based practices, here are several items to remember:

- Understand the unique needs of a child with a parent in the military on active duty during deployment. Promptly refer a student for counseling who continues to show signs of stress, inability to function in school, or has high levels of emotional response after a family member deploys.
- Create support groups for children of military families.
- Retain classroom routines and maintain predictable structured class schedules.
- Reinforce safety and security by protecting students from exposure to frightening situations and reminders of their parents' deployment. Maintain objectivity by responding to events in a calm and caring manner.



We encourage you to:

- Read the Advance CTE publication [Supporting Military-Connected Learners in Career and Technical Education](#).
- Review the culture for new students. What is the “welcoming culture”?
- Determine any burgeoning patterns by encouraging school staff members to document military-connected learner behavior or activity level changes.

Calvin: Future Computer Programmer

Calvin, a state officer in a Career and Technical Student Organization, credits his participation in CTE for igniting his passion for computer programming.

“My experience with CTE has been nothing short of transformative. Enrolling in the CTE programming class was one of the best decisions I made in high school. The course was structured to give us not only the theoretical knowledge but also the practical skills needed to thrive in the tech industry. From the moment I wrote my first line of code I was hooked. The sense of accomplishment I felt after debugging a program and seeing it run flawlessly was unmatched. Earning my certification was a milestone that filled me with immense pride and confidence. It validated my skills and opened up a world of opportunities. The CTE program didn’t just teach me how to code, it ignited a passion for programming that has driven me to take on numerous projects, from developing a mobile app to creating an interactive website for a local business. This journey has taught me the importance of perseverance, creativity, and continuous learning. Moreover, the collaborative environment of the CTE class helped me develop strong teamwork and communication skills, which are invaluable in any field. CTE has not only prepared me for a future career in technology but has also instilled in me a lifelong love for learning and innovation. I am incredibly grateful for this experience and would highly recommend CTE programs to any student looking to discover their passion and build a solid foundation for their future,” said Calvin.



Utah CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards

The Utah CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards [application](#) is open. Utah high school seniors can apply for one of 81 scholarships/tuition awards to a Utah postsecondary institution. **Applications are due Friday, January 31, 2025.** High school seniors, work with your high school counselor and CTE teacher to complete the application. Take advantage of this opportunity to receive a scholarship/tuition award to attend one of 13 Utah postsecondary institutions.

The details about the Utah CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards is located on UtahCTE.org at <https://www.schools.utah.gov/cte/resources/scholarshipsawards>.

Save the Date: February is CTE Month

CTE Month is just two months away. Plan now to celebrate and advocate for Career and Technical Education. The theme for CTE Month 2025 is **CTE: Education Elevated**. Resources are available on UtahCTE.org at <https://www.schools.utah.gov/cte/publications/month>.



@UtahCTE Social Media Highlights

- Utah SkillsUSA members describe their chapter in one word. Watch what members said <https://shorturl.at/ogdBy>.
- At the Utah HOSA Fall Leadership Conference, HOSA members participated in sessions that promoted their abilities to be leaders. Here are photos from the conference <https://shorturl.at/47deN>.

Calendar:

December 5: [Utah State Board of Education Meeting](#) – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT

December 12: [Utah State Charter School Board Meeting](#) – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT

[Utah CTE Calendar](#) | [ACTE Calendar](#)

Utah CTE classes are open to all qualified students without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.