



Utah State Board of Education

December 2024

RE: FINE ARTS AND CTE COURSE ALIGNMENT NOTIFICATION

Due to the change of USBE's competency-based systems and at the direction of USBE leadership, in FSY 2023-24 the Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Fine Arts teams were tasked with identifying natural alignments between CTE arts-based courses and the Fine Arts courses, endorsements, and core standards.

A multi-month alignment review identified significant overlap between the CTE arts-based standards and the Fine Arts state core standards. Based on these findings, the following CTE courses *may now* grant Fine Arts Credit on a case-by-case basis, depending on student needs:

- Commercial Art 1/2/3
- Commercial Photo 1/2/3
- Digital Illustration, Digital Media 1/2/Advanced
- Digital Media Capstone
- Graphic Print Design 1/2/3

CTE educator requirements: to grant this credit, CTE educators must have a secondary license and one of the following CTE endorsements:

- [Multimedia](#)
- [Commercial Photography](#)
- [Commercial Art](#)
- [Production Graphics](#)

CTE endorsements will be updated on July 1, 2025. CTE will offer different options to fulfill the requirements for the Associate Level of each endorsement.

Resulting changes for students: this change provides our students with greater flexibility in fulfilling their graduation requirements and allows them to explore their interests in both Fine Arts and Career and Technical Education – for these courses, credit can be granted depending on the student's needs.

For counselors: Counselors will make the adjustment to the type of credit for each student individually, as all initial enrollment information will default to CTE. This change is reflected in the CACTUS code for these courses. **No other CTE courses are eligible for Fine Arts graduation credit.** The CACTUS codes with the change are as follows:

Course Name	CACTUS ID
Commercial Art I	40-13-00-00-001
Commercial Art I CE	40-13-00-13-001
Commercial Art 2	40-13-00-00-020
Commercial Art 2 CE	40-13-00-13-020
Commercial Art 3	40-13-00-00-030
Digital Illustration	40-13-00-00-002
Commercial Photo 1	40-13-00-00-012
Commercial Photo 1 CE	40-13-00-13-012
Commercial Photo 2	40-13-00-00-015
Commercial Photo 2 CE	40-13-00-13-015
Commercial Photography 3	40-13-00-00-016
Digital Media 1	35-02-00-00-009
Digital Media 1 CE	35-02-00-13-009
Digital Media 2	35-02-00-00-010
Digital Media 2 CE	35-02-00-13-010
Digital Media 2 UTech	35-02-00-11-010
Digital Media Advanced	35-02-00-00-011
Digital Media Advanced UTech	35-02-00-11-011
Digital Media Advanced CE	35-02-00-13-011
Graphic Print Design 1	40-10-00-00-042
Graphic Print Design 2	40-10-00-00-044
Graphic Print Design 3	40-10-00-00-046
Digital Media Capstone	35-02-00-00-012

In CACTUS, you'll find the following language: COURSE CAN COUNT FOR FINE ARTS GRADUATION CREDIT

Resulting changes for arts educators: any educator with a Fine Arts endorsement who is interested in obtaining a CTE endorsement, the CTE endorsement process is now simplified due to the overlap of the competencies you've already demonstrated through obtaining your professional Secondary Visual Art endorsement!

For more information to obtain the CTE endorsement, contact:

- Broadcasting and Digital Media ([Multimedia CTE endorsement](#)): Kristina Yamada
kristina.yamada@schools.utah.gov

- Graphic Design and Communication ([Commercial Art CTE endorsement](#)), Commercial Photography ([Commercial Photography Endorsement Application](#)), Production Graphics ([Production Graphics Endorsement](#)) contact Saige Bowman saige.bowman@schools.utah.gov
- All Fine Arts endorsement questions: K-12 Fine Arts Specialist Liz Bunker liz.bunker@schools.utah.gov