CTE Career Pathways

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A CTE Career Pathway is a sequence of courses within a student’s area of interest. A Career Pathway connects from high school to college for a certificate, a degree, and/or career.

Career Pathways help students find their passion by offering courses within their area of interest.

How do CTE Career Pathways prepare students for college and career?
- Students complete appropriate academic and skill development courses.
- Students participate in concurrent enrollment courses that meet degree requirements.
- Students complete related state or industry skill assessments.
- Students earn industry-recognized credentials of value.

Are concurrent enrollment classes included in a CTE Career Pathway?
Yes! CTE Career Pathways may include concurrent enrollment courses, and credits earned can be transferred to a college or university.

What is a CTE Career Pathway?
A CTE Career Pathway is a sequence of courses within a student’s area of interest that connects to career interests and serves as an educational road map, leading to a credential. Utah has 35 CTE Career Pathways that align with the national Career Clusters®.

What subject areas are covered by CTE?
From agriculture to engineering to health science to manufacturing, CTE offers 35 CTE Career Pathways within 13 CTE Career Clusters.

What percentage of jobs require additional training beyond high school?
According to the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 35 percent of the job openings will require at least a bachelor’s degree, and 30 percent of the job openings will require some college or an associate degree.

What are the opportunities for students who participate in a CTE Career Pathway?
- Maximize opportunities for students.
- Increase student awareness of careers and education and training.
- Strengthen the planning process by developing a Plan for College and Career Readiness.

How many CTE Career Pathways are there in Utah?
Utah recognizes 35 CTE Career Pathways; that align with the national Career Clusters.

How many credits does a student need to be a CTE Career Pathway completer?
A student needs 3.00 graduation credits to be a CTE Career Pathway completer. In 2020-2021, 16 percent of students completed a CTE Career Pathway.

What is a CTE concentrator?
A concentrator is a student who has completed specific requirements in a single CTE program of study. In 2020–2021, 45.6 percent of students concentrated in a CTE Career Pathway. The graduation rate for students who are CTE concentrators is 96.1 percent, compared to Utah’s statewide graduation rate of 88.1 percent.

How many CTE Career Pathways are offered through CTE?
For a complete listing of CTE Career Pathways offered, talk to your high school counselor or access our website: UtahCTE.org.

Are students recognized for completing the secondary portion of a CTE Career Pathway?
Yes. An award program recognizes students who successfully complete a CTE Career Pathway while in high school. This award is called the Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award. Students should talk to their school counselor about applying for this award.

How can I learn more about CTE and CTE Career Pathways?
Talk to your school counselor, contact the Utah State Board of Education, or access our website: UtahCTE.org.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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