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.

**CTE CAREER PATHWAYS**
Utah CTE Career Pathways are categorized within 13 Career Clusters. Each Pathway culminates in an industry-recognized credential of value.

The courses within the 35 CTE Career Pathways use industry-based state-approved standards and are assessed using state-developed and/or industry-recognized skill certification tests, as reported in the state CTE plan.

**STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERS**
CTE Career Pathways align with business partners to acquaint students with career opportunities. Business and industry partnerships allow students to step out of the classroom into the real world, where they can gain a better understanding of the job skills, which enable them to be successful.

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)**
In Utah, CTSOs align with 35 CTE Career Pathways within 13 Career Clusters. Each Career Pathway provides students an opportunity to participate in a CTSO. CTSOs engage students in leadership activities as an integral part of the instructional program.

CTSOs provide relevant, engaging programs that improve student achievement, reduce dropout rates, and help students discover the wide range of career options available.

With more than 2 million student members nationwide, CTSOs have a definite impact on students' overall college and career readiness.

**CTE SKILL CERTIFICATIONS AND THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATIONS**
The Utah CTE Skill Certificate Program provides students, grades 9-12, with opportunities to receive instruction aligned with standards and objectives set by the state of Utah and by industry. Certifications are earned based on students’ knowledge and performance. Each assessment is an industry-recognized credential of value. In 2020-2021, 64,864* students earned a CTE Skill Certification.

Students also have the opportunity to earn third-party certifications. These certifications are earned through validation of skills with a business, trade association, or other industry group. In 2020-2021 10,752* students earned third-party certifications.

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*COVID-19 impacted certifications earned

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