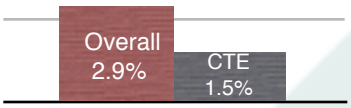
Texas CTE Fact Sheet

Issues

Dropouts

According to a study sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2006, 81 percent of dropouts responded that "real-world learning" and the opportunity "to see the connection between school and getting a job" may have encouraged them to finish high school.

In 2010, Texas allocated approximately $250 million in state and federal funding for dropout prevention and recovery initiatives. CTE is an integral part of dropout recovery and prevention initiatives, including **Early College High Schools**, **High Schools that Work, T-STEM Academies** and **Redesign Projects.**



A Comparison of Dropout Rates Class of 2009

"The problem is too many people are paying to a get a degree that won't pay. The state of Texas needs more workforce ready graduates that meet the needs of our economy."

Texas State Senator Dan Patrick from Working Texas Style

Background

Vocational Education is now Career and Technical Education per the federal act, "The Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006" or Carl D. Perkins Law. The Texas Education Agency uses the term, "CTE."

Career and Technical Education is a massive enterprise in the United States. In Texas, 77% of all high school students take at least one CTE course, and one in four students takes three or more courses in a single program area. One-third of college students are involved in CTE programs, and as many as 40 million adults engage in short-term postsecondary occupational training. In short, CTE programs serve a large and varied segment of Texans.

The shift from traditional vocational education to highly rigorous CTE programs inclusive of academic credit, student leadership organizations, college credit, and licensure and certification grew from a focused effort on alignment and preparation for college and the demands of today's competitive workforce. In 2010, updated TEKS and all new CTE courses were implemented in districts throughout the state to support college and career readiness.

Career Clusters

A Career Cluster is a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. (www.careerclusters.org). The 16 Federal Career Clusters provide an organizing framework for Programs of Study, a recommended sequence of coursework for college and career preparation based on a students interest or career goal.

Texas CTE courses are organized by 16 federally defined career clusters.

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business, Management, and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Sales & Service
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

CTE Career Pathways Prepare Students for the Fastest Growing Texas Occupations
Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Occupation	Growth Rate	Annual Salary	Cluster
1. Physical Therapy Assistant	46.1%	$51,589	STEM/Health Science
2. Occupational Therapy Assistant	42.9%	$51,764	STEM/Health Science
3. Surgical Technologist	41.9%	$37,286	STEM/Health Science
4. Cardiovascular Technician	41.8%	$44,461	STEM/Health Science
5. Skin Care Specialist	41.5%	$27,100	Human Services
6. Veterinary Technician	40.3%	$25,271	Agriculture/Health Science
7. Dental Hygienist	38.6%	$63,225	STEM/Health Science
8. Respiratory Therapist	37.8%	$47,659	STEM/Health Science
9. Registered Nurse	37.8%	$59,714	STEM/Health Science
10. Interpreter/Translator	34.9%	$42,630	Any

Texas CTE programs meet 21st century demands

Postsecondary Readiness

For students, proficiency in 21st century skills — the skills, knowledge and expertise students must master to succeed in college, work and life — should be the outcome of a 21st century education. To be "educated" today goes beyond mastery of core subjects. To help students achieve career readiness and 21st century skills, educators must strengthen their instructional, leadership and management capacity. In addition, students and educators need learning environments that are conducive to results.

-Association for Career and Technical Education

www.acteonline.org/content

Best in Business

For the sixth year in a row, Texas ranked as the top state for business, according to *Chief Executive's* annual survey. The magazine's "Best and Worst States" survey asked 651 CEOs across the U.S. to evaluate states in categories including quality of work force.

Top States for Business

State	2010 Rate	2009 Rate	Change in Rank
Texas	1	1	0
North Carolina	2	2	0
Tennessee	3	5	+2
Virginia	4	7	+3
Nevada	5	6	+1

Source: Chief Executive magazine

As a leader in business and industry, Texas must continue to extend and enhance CTE opportunities for high school graduates.

For more information on CTE, please visit:

www.ctat.org

www.acteonline.org

CTE Statistics

According to data from the Texas Education Agency, students who take two or more CTE courses have lower drop out rates, higher graduation rates, better attendance rates and higher scores on standardized TAKS exams than students who take one or no CTE courses.

A total of **1,027,435** Texas students enrolled in CTE courses for 2009-2010 representing 77% of all high school students.

- 38% of all CTE students are economically disadvantaged (391,717)
- 49% of all CTE students are At Risk (504,050)
- **25,000** certificates/licensures were earned by high school students in 2007-2008 as a measure of technical skill attainment and a professional credential leading to advanced levels of employment.
- CTE Tech Prep programs reached $45 million in potential tuition and fees savings to students through articulated college credit and $44 million in potential contact hour reimbursement saved by the state
- Over half of the state's 1873 associate of applied science (AAS) degree programs are Tech Prep including, Information Technology (14.1%), Health Science (17.5%), Business, Management, Administration (19.7%), and Manufacturing (12.7%) as reported by THECB for FY 07-08.

Funding

Approximately 70% of funding for Texas CTE programs comes from the state and 30% from the federal Perkins Grant. Texas ISDs are required by law to provide 3 out the 16 career clusters to students. 195 all new CTE courses, including 15 courses that satisfy academic credit requirements were implemented in all districts in the fall of 2010. Funds are used by districts for the following:

- Enhance and expand CTE programs inclusive of college credit and opportunities to earn certification/licensure
- Ensure CTE teachers are adequately trained to teach industry level academic and technical skills required for a variety of career options
- Maintain strong industry partnerships to support curriculum development, teacher training, job shadowing, student internships and employment
- Procure up-to-date instructional materials, equipment and kits for hands-on learning
- Establish comprehensive education planning and career guidance to students based on their interests and goals

High Wage Jobs Requiring Technical Certificates Only

Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Job Description	2007 Jobs	Annual Salary	Cluster
Aircraft mechanic	16,737	$48,901	Transportation
Legal Secretary	14,776	$40,082	Law/Public Safety
Architect Drafter	9,405	$41,954	Architecture
Mechanical Drafter	7,297	$46,592	STEM
Electronic repairman	6,269	$46,197	STEM
Real Estate Appraiser	5,069	$48,547	Marketing
Electronic Drafter	3,384	$49,462	Manufacturing/Architecture
Commercial Pilot	2,410	$61,968	Transportation
Avionics Technician	2,388	$50,461	Transportation
Healthcare Practitioner	2,189	$43,098	STEM/Health Science
Court Reporter	1,799	$41,974	Law/Public Safety
Electrical Repair (substation/relay)	1,347	$55,557	STEM