

ADVANCE CTE

State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

About Advance CTE

Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work is the longest-standing national non-profit that represents State Directors and state leaders responsible for secondary, postsecondary and adult Career Technical Education (CTE) across all 50 states and U.S. territories. Advance CTE was formerly known as the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc).

Established in 1920, Advance CTE's **vision** is to support an innovative CTE system that prepares individuals to succeed in education and their careers and poises the United States to flourish in a global, dynamic economy through leadership, advocacy and partnerships. Our **mission** is to support visionary state leadership, cultivate best practices and speak with a collective voice on national policy to promote academic and technical excellence that ensures a career-ready workforce.

Who We Serve

Advance CTE's members include the State CTE Directors from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and a number of U.S territories. We also serve other state leaders who work on CTE-related issues from state Departments of Education, community and technical college systems, boards of regents and workforce development agencies. In addition, our membership includes an array of organizations that represent key partners and stakeholders of the CTE system, as well as local- and institution-level leaders.

What We Do

Advocate

Advance CTE is an advocate for policies and legislation that enhance and sustain high-quality CTE programs throughout the nation. On behalf of our members and the field, Advance CTE actively monitors federal and state legislative developments, engages key members of Congress, supports and partners with the Congressional CTE Caucuses, and works with relevant federal agencies.

Promote Quality through Case-Making & Communications

Advance CTE oversees [CTE: Learning that works for America®](#), a national branding campaign to support high-quality CTE. Nearly every state in the nation has signed on to this campaign and is using the campaign brand and resources to communicate the benefits of high-quality CTE to all stakeholders. Advance CTE also collects state and national data to help demonstrate the value of CTE to students, employers and the economy, and leads the annual [Excellence in Action Award](#) program.

Set a Consistent Standard

Advance CTE provides leadership and support for the [National Career Clusters® Framework](#) to deliver high-quality CTE programs of study through improved design and instruction. All states use this framework in some capacity for program development, organization or reporting. Advance CTE manages the state-developed [Common Career Technical Core](#), a set of end-of-program of study benchmark standards.

Develop and Deliver Resources

Advance CTE routinely provides the CTE community with vital tools, resources and timely information required to support high-quality CTE, including policy briefs on critical CTE and college- and career-ready topics, success stories on the ground, and relevant research from the field. Advance CTE also provides professional development opportunities to its members through two annual meetings and the broader CTE community through regular webinars and resources on key issues.