



CTEWORKS

NEWS AND UPDATES

Welcome to Advance CTE's new monthly newsletter - CTEWorks - where you will receive the latest information, resources and tools around key topic areas. Additionally, each month we'll feature a short interview with an Advance CTE staff member on the topic area. You are receiving this newsletter because you have signed up to receive information from [Advance CTE](#).

This month, we are exploring employer engagement and the vital role employers play in advancing high-quality Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. In light of COVID-19 (coronavirus) and the economic downturn, it is critical that career pathways are aligned to industry needs and provide learners with opportunities to engage with business leaders and those in the workforce. This month, CTEWorks features resources that demonstrate ways that state, district and postsecondary institution leaders can engage employers to strengthen the connections between the education and labor market sectors and ensure learners can smoothly transition between them.

Resources

Advance CTE Resources

- [Advance CTE's New Skills for Youth Innovation Sites 2020 Snapshot: Greater Washington Region](#) profiles the K-16 Information Technology (IT) Pathways Initiative, a collaborative effort to create an IT talent pipeline in the Washington, D.C. region, with participation from five cities and counties, including community colleges, universities, and IT employers.
- [In Their Words: Why Business Leaders Support CTE, Career Pathways and Career Academies](#) is the outcome of two roundtables held with business leaders in Nashville, TN and Pinellas County, FL to explore why and how they support CTE in their communities. The report offers recommendations for employer engagement and recruitment.



- [The State of Career Technical Education: Increasing Access to Industry Experts in High Schools](#) draws on data from two national surveys to examine the shortage of industry experts in secondary classrooms and how to address it.

Partner Resources:

- Research/Report: National Skills Coalition - [Powerful Partners: Businesses and Community Colleges](#)
- Research/Report: Foundation for Excellence in Education - [Building Cross-Sector Partnerships to Support Career and Technical Education Pathways: A Playbook for State Policy Makers](#)
- Guide/Tool: Ohio Department of Education - [Business Advisory Councils in Ohio Schools](#)

Visit the Learning that Works Resource Center

CTE & Talent Pipeline Management



View this webinar to learn about the new resources from The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, developed with support from Advance CTE, to strengthen employer-CTE relationships using the Talent Pipeline Management(R) process. Hear from leaders who have built long-lasting and meaningful two-way partnerships to improve both learner outcomes and industry's talent needs.

View now

State Policies Addressing Employer Engagement

Mississippi

The [HB1336](#) bill establishes the Mississippi Learn to Earn Act, which requires the state board of education to identify "high-school-to-work" apprenticeships that can be utilized for graduation credit and allows the state board to authorize local boards to approve alternative courses for graduation credit. Read the full text of the bill [here](#).

Iowa

The [HF2629](#) bill amends the Future Ready Iowa Act to: expand registered apprenticeship opportunity programs which provides financial support for small organizations in high-demand areas to continue apprenticeships; establish instructional standards for computer science coursework statewide; and expand eligibility requirements for statewide work-based learning programs. Read the full text of the bill [here](#).



Meet Meghan Wills, Director of Strategic Initiatives at Advance CTE. This month we asked Meghan about Advance CTE's initiatives that strategically connect employers and CTE. Read a blog with the full interview [here](#).

Q. Through your work at Advance CTE, how have you seen employer engagement prioritized in high-quality CTE programs?

A. As a result of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), employers have more opportunities than ever before to become active participants in developing high-quality CTE programs. Through the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA), employers can identify local workforce needs and high-skill, high-wage, in-demand occupations in their community and ensure that CTE programs and programs of study are aligned to those needs and opportunities. Work-based learning is a critical component of high-quality CTE programs, and the strongest work-based learning experiences are co-developed by employers and the education system to meet both learners' and employers' needs. Finally, employers and industry experts are serving as classroom instructors and industry mentors, which provide learners with invaluable opportunities to directly learn from experts in the field.

Read the full blog [here](#).

