



# CTEWORKS

NEWS AND UPDATES

Fostering strong relationships that break silos between learning and work and align skill-building opportunities across all learner levels is critical to building high-quality career pathways and learner-centered career preparation ecosystems. Through trust and collaboration, strong partnerships enable all parties involved to focus on contributing their individual strengths to a shared goal and amplifying their reach. When Career Technical Education (CTE) systems are aligned as a result of strong partnerships, learners experience a more cohesive career preparation experience. This month's CTEWorks newsletter features resources related to systems alignment and cross-sector partnerships, including the year one snapshots and progress report from the *New Skills ready network*.

Learning that Works Resource Center

**NEW SKILLS**  
READY NETWORK



**YEAR ONE**

## Early Achievements & Innovations

- ***New Skills ready network*** 2021 Annual Report and Snapshots — *New Skills ready network*, launched by JPMorgan Chase & Co. in 2020, bolsters the firm's efforts to support an inclusive economic recovery, as part of both their \$350 million, five-year New Skills at Work initiative to prepare people for the future of work and their new \$30 billion commitment to advance racial equity. Advance CTE and Education Strategy Group (ESG) are working with six sites to improve student completion of high-quality career pathways in six US communities. Advance CTE and ESG released a **progress report** on the first year of work with the *New Skills ready network* led by state and local leaders across the career pathways ecosystem at the six sites: Boston, MA; Columbus, OH;

Dallas, TX; Denver CO; Indianapolis, IN; and Nashville, TN. Additionally, snapshots are available from each of the *New Skills ready network* sites highlighting early innovations and key project focuses:

- **Boston, MA**
- **Columbus, OH**
- **Dallas, TX**
- **Denver, CO**
- **Indianapolis, IN**
- **Nashville, TN**



- ***Strengthening Career Pathways Through the Power of State and Local Partnerships*** offers promising practices for leveraging the strengths of both state and local leaders and maximizing the capacity of state resources to cultivate sustainable, scalable partnerships and advance high-quality career pathways. This brief provides five components to achieve this goal and highlights promising practices and programs in Colorado, Hawaii, Nebraska and Tennessee.
- ***Perkins V Promotes Cross-System Collaboration*** discusses the mechanisms in Perkins V for cross-system collaboration, an overview of how this appears in Perkins V state plans and an example of how a state is ensuring that engagement is ongoing and will successfully achieve a shared vision for education and workforce.
- ***Opportunities to Advance Statewide Industry Collaboration and Engagement in Career Technical Education*** explores state strategies to systematically engage business and industry leaders in support of CTE. The information draws on research from Advance CTE’s review of Perkins V state plans as well as key informant interviews with CTE leaders in Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Ohio and South Carolina.
- ***Promoting a Regional Approach to the Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment*** provides a framework, self-assessment, guidance and key questions to help states considering leveraging the CLNA process to foster regional collaboration.
- ***The State of Career Technical Education: Improving Data Quality and Effectiveness*** draws on a national survey of State CTE Directors to examine how states are collecting and using career readiness data and explores strategies to align CTE data systems across the secondary, postsecondary and workforce sectors.

[Visit the Learning that Works Resource Center](#)

## CTE Without Limits: Stay Engaged

With the support of more than 40 national organizations representing the full continuum of CTE learners and stakeholders, ***Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education*** (*CTE Without Limits*), establishes a bold vision for all of education including but not limited to CTE.

This summer, Advance CTE is partnering with experts from supporting organizations of *CTE Without Limits* to conduct video panels to delve into four of the five foundational commitments that connect the vision principles.

***Vision Commitments 'Vlog' Episode 3: Maximizing the Return on Investment for Industry Engagement to Build CTE Without Limits*** featured the Corporation for Skilled Workforce (CSW), National Skills Coalition (NSC) and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. The panel discussed the growth and potential of public-private partnerships and the need for this collaboration across all stages of program development, including design, delivery and evaluation. Each panelist shared their insights on policy frameworks and next steps to more easily facilitate public-private partnerships and better connect systems of education, industry and workforce, as well as recommendations to improve trust building and communication with industry partners to fully realize the value of CTE.

Check out these resources from vision supporters:

- Guide/ Tool - Southern Regional Education Board — ***Partnerships to Align Education and Careers***
- Research/ Report - JFF — ***Lessons in Leadership and Governance: Structures and Commitments for Scaling Regional College and Career Pathways Systems***

## Upcoming CTE Without Limits Lunch and Learn



**WITHOUT LIMITS**  
A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education

**Lunch and Learn: Each learner's skills are counted, valued and portable**

**ADVANCE CTE**  
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

**Lunch & Learn: Each learner's skills are counted, valued, and portable**

**Date: August 17, 2021**

**Time: 3:00 PM ET**

This session is the fourth in Advance CTE's Lunch & Learn series focused on exploring each of the principles from *Without Limits: A Shared Vision for the Future of Career Technical Education*. Attendees will be introduced to the fourth principle of the vision, "Each learner's skills are counted, valued, and portable" and the roles of secondary, postsecondary and workforce systems in accomplishing this principle. Attendees will have a chance to discuss this

principle in small groups and will leave this session with an increased awareness of the aspirations of this principle and strategies to apply it to their own work.

Speakers:

- Jonathan Alfuth, State Policy Director, KnowledgeWorks
- Molly Bashay, Senior Policy Analyst - Education, Labor & Worker Justice, The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
- Niki DaSilva, Manager, Programs and Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Center for Education and Workforce

Moderator:

- Austin Estes, Data & Research Manager, Advance CTE

Register [here](#).

## Get to Know Advance CTE!



Meet Meredith Hills! Meredith serves as Advance CTE's Senior Associate for Federal Policy, and runs the organization's federal strategy from research to analysis to advocacy- and everything in between! Meredith's work is focused on ensuring that federal legislation and guidance supports the state CTE leaders in implementing high-quality, equitable and forward-thinking programs. Meredith works on all CTE, or CTE adjacent, education and workforce development policies, whether a bill is up for reauthorization or is a standalone piece.

**Q: What are some steps for CTE leaders to follow in building and maintaining relationships with policymakers?**

A: As a state CTE leader, you can contact your representatives with information about what CTE implementation looks like in your state and/or district. Share stories from the perspective of a CTE leader as well as from the student perspective, so that your representatives understand the significant role CTE plays in academic and career success. Constituents are always going to be the most compelling advocates to a policymaker, so reach out to start a dialogue and then reaching to affirm a positive action from the policymaker or to request support for a new action.

Read more [here](#).

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**ADVANCE**  **CTE**  
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

