



Double the Investment in CTE!

Perkins is a federal education program that invests in secondary and postsecondary Career Technical Education (CTE) programs in all 50 states and the territories. It is also the main law supporting the CTE community and the approximately 12 million learners in CTE programs.

Funding for CTE state grants declined by almost half a billion (inflation-adjusted) dollars from 2001-2017. If funding for Perkins had kept pace with inflation, the law would have over 2 billion dollars to meet the needs of businesses and learners nationwide, as well as the evolving challenges we face in the future of work.

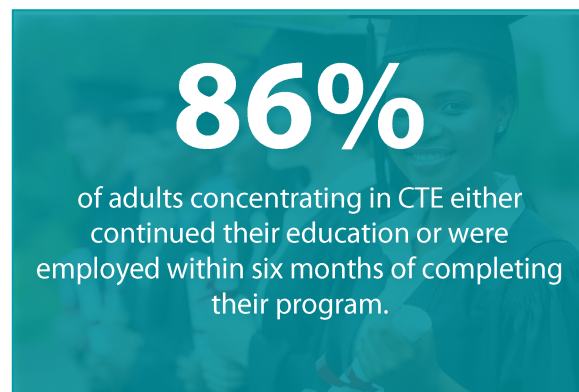
CTE is a proven strategy to reinforce the U.S. economy, engage learners, prepare the workforce and close critical skills gaps. As such, future investments in CTE need to reflect this opportunity to strengthen American communities. We are calling on businesses and stakeholders nationwide to [sign on today](#) in support of the campaign to double the investment in CTE. Please visit ISupportCTE.org for more information and sign on in support today!

Funding for CTE supports a variety of activities including:

- Professional development for teachers and faculty to remain up to date on the latest industry advances;
- Continuous improvement and expansion of existing programs;
- Career counseling, guidance and advisement;
- Career exploration opportunities;
- Creation of new programs and associated equipment;

Across the country, CTE programs are preparing learners for promising careers and giving employers and our economy a competitive edge.

- CTE programs provide unique opportunities for learners to **engage with employers and participate in internships, apprenticeships and other meaningful on-the-job experiences**. Ninety percent of Americans agree that apprenticeships and skills training programs prepare students for a good standard of living.
- Students involved in CTE are far less likely to drop out of high school** than other students, a difference estimated to save the economy \$168 billion each year.



With demand for technical skills growing, America needs more funding to expand and improve CTE programs to serve more learners and employers.

73%

of Americans said increasing federal spending on K-12 public education is extremely important when asked to identify their priorities for the new Congress.

- Nearly **60 percent of companies report having difficulty filling job openings** because of a lack of qualified applicants, which can cost a company more than \$800,000 each year in lost productivity and recruitment.
- A survey of school districts offering CTE found that **the top barrier to offering CTE in high school was a lack of funding or the high cost of the programs.**

Expanding funding for CTE programs will create a brighter future for our community — leading to more career options for learners, better results for employers, and increased growth for our economy.

91%

of parents of students in CTE believe their child is getting a leg up on their career, compared to only **44%** of parents with children not involved in CTE.

- The high school **graduation rate for students with a concentration of CTE courses is 94 percent**, about 10 percentage points higher than the national average.
- The estimated **impact of a 90 percent graduation rate nationwide** (calculated for the class of 2015) **is a \$5.7 billion increase in economic growth** and \$664 million in additional federal, state and local taxes.

About Our Campaign

We are asking employers to sign on to support the campaign to double the federal investment in CTE. This is a shared campaign; we invite everyone to join the effort! The signatures collected from employers will be a critical component to building visibility and support for CTE with members of Congress. Please visit www.ISupport.org for more information.