

# 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, our **Mission** is to support visionary state leadership, cultivate best practices and speak with a collective voice to advance high-quality CTE policies, programs and pathways that ensure career success for each learner. Our **Vision** is to transform and expand CTE so that each learner – of any background, age and zip code – is prepared for career and college success through state leadership, advocacy and partnerships.

## What We Do

**Lead:** Advance CTE works with its members and partners to ensure CTE is high quality and highly visible, and has co-developed a bold, shared vision for the future of CTE through [Putting Learner Success First: A Shared Vision for the Future of CTE](#). Advance CTE is deeply committed to [improving equity in CTE](#) and serves as a co-lead on JPMorgan Chase's [New Skills for Youth initiative](#), a multi-year, multi-state effort to transform states' career preparation system.

**Advocate:** Advance CTE is a leading 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. Members can also hone their [advocacy skills](#) with our extensive resources and supports.

**Provide Quality Professional Learning and Resources:** Advance CTE provides the CTE community with vital tools, resources and technical assistance to support high-quality CTE, including policy briefs, success stories on the ground, and implementation support to the field. Advance CTE's [Learning that Works Resource Center](#) is a one-stop shop for all career readiness-related resources, and offers professional learning through its annual [meetings](#) and the broader CTE community through regular webinars and resources on key issues.

**Promote Quality through Case-Making & Communications:** Advance CTE manages [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 leads the annual [Excellence in Action Awards](#) program to recognize model programs of study, and offers many [resources](#) to help state and local leaders communicate effectively about the value and promise of CTE.

**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.

## Who We Serve

Advance CTE's members include the State CTE Directors from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S territories. We also serve other state leaders who work on CTE-related issues within K-12, postsecondary and workforce development. 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.