

DELAWARE'S AREA TECHNICAL CENTERS FEATURED IN NATIONAL AREA TECHNICAL CENTER STUDY

SILVER SPRING, MD (FEBRUARY 3, 2021) -Today, Advance CTE released Building Better Futures for Learners: A 50-State Analysis of Area Technical Centers (ATCs), alongside five state profiles highlighting effective and high-impact models of ATCs. Delaware's area technical centers, which are featured in a state profile, serve both secondary and postsecondary learners. Annually, the state invests \$8.5 million in adult learners served by ATCs, positioning them as the training providers for the state's Registered Apprenticeship program. Delaware's ATCs are key players in the state's education and workforce development efforts, contributing to the state's postsecondary attainment goals by helping learners attain the skills necessary to earn credentials of value in high-wage, in-demand occupations.

"As we look ahead at the challenges and opportunities to achieving a sustainable and equitable economic recovery, it is vital that states fully leverage existing resources and institutions that offer high quality, accessible education", said Kimberly Green, Executive Director for Advance CTE. "Our work shows that ATCs are both resilient and effective - helping learners acquire the skills and credentials needed on their path to economic self sufficiency and growth."

The state profile highlights the uniquely strong alignment of Delaware's area technical centers with the postsecondary education system through the state's CTE alliance and required stackable credentials and academic credits that are transferable to two and four year-degree institutions across the state.

"The adult divisions of our technical school systems have long been a bridge between education and employment, connecting Delaware employers to learners who are seeking to develop or enhance their skills through the state Registered Apprenticeship system and high-quality credential programs," Secretary of Education Susan Bunting said. "We are pleased to be recognized for our efforts to make Delaware's area technical centers a central and effective partner in our plans to achieve 65 percent of our workforce holding a degree or credential by 2025."

The full state profile and additional resources can be found at www.AreaTechnicalCenters.org.