



Career Technical Education (CTE) is a proven strategy that expands options for learners, empowers them to choose a meaningful and sustainable career, and prepares them with real-world skills for success in college and careers. Through hands-on learning, engagement with industry experts and rigorous academic and career-focused coursework, CTE is learning that works for Rhode Island’s students – and its economy.

CTE Works for Learners in Rhode Island

CTE Enrollment¹

19,941

High School

1,641

Postsecondary

High School Graduation

83%

Rhode Island Average²

91%

CTE Concentrators³

Outcomes for Learners in Rhode Island⁴

73%

high school CTE graduates enrolling in college, enlisting in the military or working within six months

90%

postsecondary CTE students staying enrolled and/or transferring

75%

postsecondary CTE students earning a credential, certificate or degree

77%

postsecondary CTE graduates placed in careers or further training within six months

- Fun fact: According to the Rhode Island Department of Education, 652 CTE students earned an industry-recognized credential, 833 earned postsecondary credits, and 116 earned advanced standing in an apprenticeship program in the 2013-14 school year.⁵
- Fun fact: Rhode Island’s data system, Rhode Island DataHUB, is a comprehensive tool that includes not only education data, but also economic, health, civic engagement and justice data.⁶

CTE Works for Rhode Island’s Economy

- Middle-skill jobs – those requiring some postsecondary education and training, but not a Bachelor’s degree – account for 51 percent of Rhode Island’s labor market.
- However, only 41 percent of workers in Rhode Island are qualified to fill these middle-skill jobs,⁸ leading to a skills gap that CTE can help address.
- In total, 5,274 associate’s degrees or certificates were awarded in Rhode Island in 2015 – about 26 percent of all postsecondary degrees and certificates.⁹



In Rhode Island, the top middle-skill occupations with the highest projected job openings are in the Health Science Career Cluster.⁷

¹ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer. <https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/CTEParticipant>

² U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.
https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2014-15.asp

³ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer. <https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/Performance>

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ <http://www.ripec.org/pdfs/2015-CTE.pdf>

⁶ http://www.ecs.org/ec-content/uploads/Examining_SLDS_Development_and_Utility.pdf

⁷ Based on Advance CTE's analysis of fastest-growing occupations by state. This represents occupations with high annual projected job openings that requires an associate's degree and provide an average wage of at least \$34,760. Retrieved from https://www.careerinfonet.org/select_state.asp?id=11&nodeid=12&next=state1

⁸ National Skills Coalition. (2017). *State Middle Skills Fact Sheets*. <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/state-policy/states>

⁹ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. Advance CTE's analysis of completions component. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>