



## Career and Technical Education

# CTE DIRECTIONS

## Career and Technical Education (CTE) News and Information

May 2025

**Career and Technical Education provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value.**

### Special Populations Best Practice – Out-of-Workforce Individuals

As we continue to highlight evidence-based practices, this month we highlight the special population of out-of-workforce individuals. Out-of-workforce individuals are defined as, “A person who has primarily worked without pay, caring for family members, who is unemployed or underemployed, and who is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.” Out-of-workforce individuals are a focus for postsecondary institutions.

In these evidence-based practices, strategies to work with out-of-workforce individuals include:

- Working with state and local agencies and departments to coordinate with employer groups to understand the causes of unemployment, workforce needs, and career opportunities.
- Work-based learning and job placement strategies targeted to out-of-workforce individuals to improve on necessary job skills, knowledge, and abilities.
- Flexible learning environments and experiences that enable out-of-workforce individuals to take Career and Technical Education courses and manage their home responsibilities.

We encourage you to:

- Begin your work by finding state and local agencies to partner.
- Read the Advance CTE publication [Supporting Out-of-Workforce Individuals in Career and Technical Education](#).
- Review the USBE/CTE special populations webpage <https://www.schools.utah.gov/cte/specialpopulations>.



### Advice to Students

Utah high school seniors were asked, “What advice would you offer to future students about taking CTE courses during high school?” Annika and Michael give this advice:

#### Annika: Future Physician Assistant



“CTE courses are the perfect way to explore career paths! Take CTE courses in multiple different subjects and take as many as you can. You may take a class in something you didn’t think was interesting, but after learning more about it you can realize that you actually love it. Taking courses in different subjects can also open up new opportunities that you didn’t know existed and can end up being some of the best parts of high school. The more CTE courses you take the further ahead you place yourself on your career path. Getting high school credit for exploring career options is one of the best opportunities.”

#### Michael: Future Chef

“For future students entering high school, my advice is simple, explore as many CTE courses as you can. These courses give you a hands-on look at different fields, helping you figure out what you might be interested in for your future career or college major. I highly recommend completing at least one CTE Pathway—a series of related courses in a specific area. This experience not only gives you practical skills but also helps you navigate your academic and career choices. Personally, I wouldn’t have discovered my passion for culinary arts if I hadn’t taken these classes. So, my advice is to take advantage of CTE courses, complete a pathway, and let these experiences guide your path forward.”



### @UtahCTE Social Media Highlights

- Registration is now live for #UtahCTE Summer Conference 2025. Take a look at what CTE education specialists have planned and register today <https://tinyurl.com/58hk83ct>.
- Roy High School FFA members used their floriculture skills to bring hope and comfort to those fighting cancer <https://tinyurl.com/srkad ymp>.
- Timpview TSA members shine at the 2025 Utah TSA State Conference <https://tinyurl.com/5n8abatc>.
- The Davis Catalyst Center hosted a TeachERS Conference to inspire the next generation of female STEM professionals <https://tinyurl.com/h7z8jfy a>. Girls from junior high schools in Davis School District and local charter schools were the focus of the conference.
- Evergreen Junior High students in the College and Career Awareness class presented to 5th graders at a cybersecurity fair, where they taught them about careers in cybersecurity and responsible digital citizenship.

### Calendar:

**May 1: [Utah State Board of Education Meeting](#) – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT**

**May 8: [Utah State Charter School Board Meeting](#) – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT**

**[Utah CTE Calendar](#) | [ACTE Calendar](#)**

Utah CTE classes are open to all qualified students without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

This newsletter will not be published in June, July, and August. In September, this newsletter will return highlighting resources to assist you in promoting your CTE programs. Have a great summer! Stay safe.

Utah State Board of Education | Career and Technical Education  
250 East 500 South P.O. Box 144200 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200

