

## Upcoming Events

### July

28-30 – State CTE Conference - Mitchell

### August

6-8 – CTE 101 Online

## CTE Summer Conference July 28-30 in Mitchell

The South Dakota Career & Technical Education (CTE) Summer Conference is sponsored by the South Dakota Department of Education and in cooperation with the South Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education. Each year, this conference provides over 300 teachers, administrators, and school counselors with opportunities to connect with other educators and to explore best practices that will help them prepare students to be college, career, and life ready. This year's conference will be held July 28-30 in Mitchell. For more information, a conference schedule and to register, visit <https://doe.sd.gov/cte/training.aspx>.

## Make Plans to Join A Region Exchange Day

If your school is part of the East Central Region, Northeast Region or the North Central Region, mark your calendars for **Sept. 18, 2019** or **Oct. 30, 2019**, as Sioux Falls, Aberdeen and Watertown will be the locations hosting the 2019 Region Exchange Meetings. These meetings are a great way to connect with CTE colleagues in your area. The agenda will include an industry panel, industry networking, best practice sharing, region updates and more! If you're uncertain what region you belong to, [check here](#). Registration for these events will be available in August.

# Career and Technical Education: Not your grandpa's Vo-tech

By Sue Bickford for Directions Magazine

The United States is in dire need of a technically trained workforce. According to a [2017 report](#) by the National Science Academy of Sciences we, as a nation, are not meeting the increasing demand from industries — a critical component for competing globally in the 21st century.

The need has been identified, but the solution can be a slippery one to define for several reasons. Historically, vocational technical training was limited to male dominated trade programs such as auto and wood shop. Today Career and Technical Education schools offer a variety of training opportunities to a broad population of students.

The list of stakeholders involved in developing innovative solutions are fragmented and diverse. It includes "educators; students; workers; employers; the federal, state, and local governments; labor organizations; and civic associations," according to the [NSAS](#). Getting these diverse stakeholders to work together effectively across educational systems and industries is a Herculean task. Coordination and cooperation between these large and small systems will be critical. But without it, industries will continue to face global competition pressures and students will continue to accrue staggering student debt with shrinking prospects of finding high paying skilled jobs.

Ultimately, the return on investment must be worth it both for students entering CTE programs and for employers investing in these programs. Integration of academic education, technical training and hands-on work experience improves outcomes and return on investment for students in secondary and post-secondary education and for skilled technical workers in different career stages, the [NSAS reports](#).

An example of this would be the increase in the number of colleges offering onsite and online certificate programs in technical fields such as the geospatial industry. These courses are being offered for

traditional credits, continuing education credits and professional development opportunities. Foundational courses are also appearing through CTE and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curricula in high schools and even middle schools.

An important step for any technical industry is the development of industry standards. An example of this is the development of a national product for a specific industry called a Competency Model.

"The models serve as a resource to inform discussions among industry leaders, educators, economic developers, and public workforce investment professionals as they collaborate to:

- Identify specific employer skill needs
- Develop competency-based curricula and training models
- Develop industry-defined performance indicators, skill standards, and certifications
- Develop resources for career exploration and guidance." ([CareerOneStop.org](#))

The geospatial industry upgraded the [Geospatial Competency Model](#) in 2018. The first three levels of the competency model helps insure students entering the workforce have basic competencies such as literacy and numeric skills as well as teamwork and creative thinking skills. This model helps educational institutions develop teaching strategies that prepare students for all workplace situations. Then CTE classes build on these skills for industry specific employment.

Moving forward, this career gap exists in the present, as this new generation of technology-savvy students emerges. Their future needs must be supported as well, with financial aid for continuing education, on-the-job training, mentorship and professional accreditation opportunities. This continues to be especially true for underrepresented populations of students. The time is now to advance efforts to promote CTE, or the global economy will move on without us.



# In The News

Entrepreneurship and STEM Come Together at Dakota Valley Middle School

LATI Selected for Workforce Playbook

FFA Star Partners Help Fund New Generation of Student Leadership

This South Dakota Summer Camp is All About CybHer Security

## NCRC News

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) can be used for the Advanced Career Endorsement with the 2018 high school graduation requirements and the Build Dakota scholarship. Additionally, the NCRC assists students in demonstrating career readiness by matching their skill level to thousands of occupations using the [Job Profiles Database](#). [Learn more about the NCRC.](#)

If you have not yet already, please complete and submit an [application](#) for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

## Contact Information

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57501-2291 | P: 605.773.3423 |  
F: 605.773.4236 | [sdmylife.com](#)

# Exploring Occupations by Career Cluster



A great future STEMS from well laid plans and a good foundation. Explore great South Dakota career opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics!

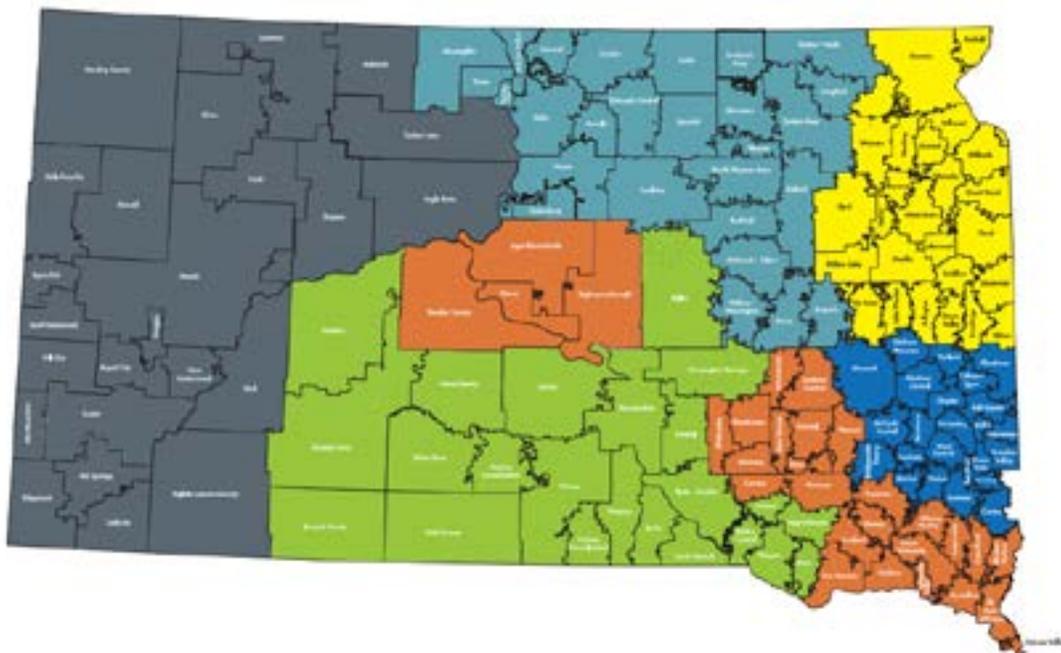
[dlr.sd.gov/lmic/career\\_cluster\\_stem.aspx](http://dlr.sd.gov/lmic/career_cluster_stem.aspx)



Stay, don't stray to fulfill your life's dreams. Explore great South Dakota career opportunities in Transportation, Distribution and Logistics!

[dlr.sd.gov/lmic/career\\_cluster\\_transportation.aspx](http://dlr.sd.gov/lmic/career_cluster_transportation.aspx)

## CTE Regional Outreach



### WESTERN REGION

**Contact: Joe Rainboth (605) 220-3441**  
Health Science, Information Technology, Law, Public Safety, & Security

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

**Contact: Amber Rost (605) 220-6612**  
Education & Training; Hospitality & Tourism; Human Services

### NORTHEAST REGION

**Contact: Jane Gubrud (605) 295-1892**  
STEM; Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

**Contact: Michelle Nelson (605) 295-1930**  
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources; Government & Public Administration

### SOUTHEAST REGION

**Contact: Brad Scott (605) 773-4740**  
Architecture & Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

### EAST CENTRAL REGION

**Contact: Kara Schweitzer (605) 220-3381**  
Business Management & Administration, Finance, and Marketing

