

Vocational Education (Vo-Tech)

vs.

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

What's in a Name?



Why the Change?

Vo-Tech focused on...

Students who performed poorly in academic courses and/or were not considered 'college material'

STUDENTS

A small number of low-wage careers

CAREERS

High school and traditional two-year postsecondary institutions only

SCHOOL LEVEL

Static skills only, in place of academic preparation

STANDARDS & ACADEMICS

Short-term training and either training at a two-year postsecondary institution or no college

TRAINING

CTE focuses on...

ALL students, regardless of performance or postsecondary and career plans

ALL careers, including high-demand fields such as health science, information technology, and advanced manufacturing

Middle school through postsecondary, including technical institutes and universities

The integration of academics and career preparation within a rigorous standards-based curriculum

Professional certifications, associate degrees, four-year degrees and beyond

Vo-Tech



NARROW FOCUS,
SMALL IMPACT

vs.

CTE

BROAD
FOCUS,
LARGE
IMPACT



Learning that works for South Dakota

CTE™

doe.sd.gov/cte