



Learning that works for South Dakota

CTETM



February is CTE Month!

Join us in celebrating
your local CTE programs.

What is Career & Technical Education (CTE)?

Career & Technical Education prepares all South Dakota students to be **college & career-ready** by equipping them with academic skills, employability skills, and job-specific technical skills.

CTE courses are offered in middle schools, high schools, technical institutes, and universities in South Dakota.

Within CTE, occupations and career specialties are grouped into Career Clusters[®]. Each of the 16 clusters is based on a set of common knowledge and skills that prepare learners for a full range of opportunities.

How is CTE different from vocational education?

In the past, vocational education targeted low-achieving students at the high school level and provided technical training for a few specific jobs in lieu of academic preparation.

Today, Career & Technical Education includes modern, cutting edge programs that align with and support academic courses and that are intended for **all students**, whether their postsecondary plans include an associates, bachelors, or graduate degree.

How can my local CTE programs help me?

Career & Technical Education programs actively partner with employers to design and implement courses that meet the needs of industry skill requirements. Employers **save time and money** on training costs by filling employee skill gaps while they are still in high school and postsecondary institutions.

Additionally, Career & Technical Education develops students' **soft skills**. CTE hones students' abilities in innovation, problem solving, time management, and entrepreneurship, ultimately making their future employers more competitive in the global economy.

More Information

How can I get involved?

For more information on CTE programs in your community, please contact the South Dakota Department of Education at 605-773-3423 or visit <http://www.doe.sd.gov/octe/ctemonth.aspx>

