

DOE Strategic Priority	HOW CTE DELIVERS ON DELAWARE DOE’S STRATEGIC PLAN Career & Technical Education (CTE) is a Driver of Student Success, Workforce Readiness, and Economic Growth
Bright Beginnings 	CTE pathways support Bright Beginnings by strengthening the pipeline of educators serving children and families, while the Delaware Teacher Academy prepares future educators through classroom and work-based learning. Students build knowledge and skills to create inclusive early childhood and K–12 environments. <i>These pathways expand access to quality early learning, helping ensure children are healthy, safe, and ready for school while also building a workforce equipped to meet the needs of Delaware’s learners and their families.</i>
Safe & Supportive Schools 	Career-connected learning boosts engagement, belonging, and persistence in Safe and Supportive Schools. Students learn in environments where they feel connected, supported, and prepared to succeed. Career pathways and hands-on experiences make learning relevant and increase engagement. Nearly 74.3% of CTE High School concentrators or completers placed in employment, postsecondary education, or training within six months of graduation. <i>This reflects a commitment to fostering safe, supportive, and welcoming school communities that prepare students for life beyond high school.</i>
Great Teaching & Learning 	Great Teaching and Learning for Career-Connected Success. Students engage in rigorous, career-connected learning aligned to workforce and postsecondary paths. Students across Delaware engage in hands-on learning that connects classrooms to careers, building technical skills, earning industry-recognized credentials, and gaining experience in high-demand fields. In 2024, 97.8% of CTE concentrators graduated on time, exceeding the statewide average. <i>This work advances college and career readiness by strengthening pathways to postsecondary education and expanding access to high-quality programs aligned with workforce needs.</i>
Fair Opportunities for Every Learner 	CTE expands Fair Opportunities For Every Learner into high-quality pathways across Delaware. Students access high-quality CTE programs with clear pathways to high-growth industries. Delaware continues expanding participation and equitable access. In 2024 there were 74,681 total participants across 50+ career pathways, reflecting broad statewide access to career-connected learning. <i>This work expands access to high-quality experiences, ensuring every learner has the opportunity to succeed.</i>
Families & Communities as Partners 	Family and Community Partnerships connect education, workforce, and community systems to support student success. Through collaboration among schools, employers, and community organizations, students and families engage in meaningful career exploration and planning. CTE provides students with real-world experiences aligned to their goals. In 2024, 97.4% of postsecondary CTE students earned a recognized credential. <i>These efforts strengthen communities by expanding systematic access to education and training, promoting lifelong learning, and supporting economic mobility.</i>



Delaware Department of Education

STRATEGIC PLAN

2025 - 2028



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

Expand Early Education

- Ensure each and every young child is healthy, safe, learning, and prepared to start kindergarten.
- Increase opportunities for children and families to access early childhood education and support.
- Develop well-trained early childhood teachers who know how young children learn best.



SAFE, SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS

Student Wellbeing | Instructional Leadership Educator Workforce Growth and Retention

- Foster safe, caring, and welcoming schools where everyone belongs.
- Design schools where teachers grow, collaborate, and lead as true professionals.
- Guarantee a robust workforce of qualified teachers.
- Support skilled leaders who can manage and improve schools effectively.

The Delaware Department of Education's mission is to empower every learner with the highest quality education through shared leadership, innovative practices, and exemplary services. These priority initiatives provide the building blocks and roadmap for a world-class Delaware education system.

Our Promise: Start with Students. Build for Impact.



GREAT TEACHING AND LEARNING

Early Literacy Success | Improved Student Achievement Data and Assessment Systems | College and Career Readiness

- Fully align standards, curriculum, and assessments so all students reach high expectations.
- Focus accountability systems on improved student outcomes.
- Create smooth routes from school to college or careers for every student.
- Offer strong technical and vocational options tied to real jobs and industries.



FAIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERY LEARNER

Education Funding Reform | AI Proficiency for Impact

- Prepare all learners and educators in AI literacy, digital citizenship, and the safe, ethical, and responsible use of technology.
- Strengthen resources, funding, and high-quality instruction for students needing the most support.
- Ensure education policy leaders are accountable for coherent and consistent system implementation.



FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES AS PARTNERS

Family and Community Partnerships

- Nurture strong partnerships with families built on trust and communication.
- Build community support for education through teamwork and advocacy.
- Strengthen communities through adult education opportunities.



Every learner ready for success in college, career, and life.