



Feb 3, 2025

Dear Delaware CTE Leaders,

Happy Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month! We encourage you to reflect on the vital role you play in shaping Delaware's future. Thanks to you, Delaware continues to lead in program innovation, equity, and access. Together, we are addressing industry needs, closing equity gaps, and preparing students for the challenges of tomorrow's workforce.

In recognition of these efforts, the **Delaware General Assembly has proclaimed February 2025 Career and Technical Education Month**, recognizing the role of CTE in empowering students with industry-relevant skills, fostering economic growth, and strengthening pathways to success through collaboration with educators, employers, and workforce partners.

Your efforts have positioned Delaware's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs as national leaders. Your dedication, creativity, and perseverance are the driving forces behind student success. Delaware's secondary CTE students reached impressive milestones during the 2022-2023 school year:

- 96% on-time graduation rate;
- 68% of public high school students participating;
- 54% of CTE completers earned early postsecondary credits;
- 62% of CTE completers met college or career readiness benchmarks; and
- 11,560 students participated in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs), with 116 achieving national recognition in competition.

Your impact is reflected in the recent recognition by [Bellwether's Pathways to Implementation series](#). Delaware is highlighted for its leadership in program design, stakeholder engagement, resource alignment, and continuous improvement.

Thank you for leading, inspiring, empowering, and preparing Delaware's students. Together, we are transforming lives and strengthening communities by ensuring each learner engages in an equitable and high-quality education, enriching experiences, and meaningful relationships to achieve their individual career and life goals.

With Gratitude,

Dr. Jon Wickert, Director
Career and Technical Education

Mrs. Joanna Staib, Executive Director
Delaware Workforce Development Board



Christopher B. Stahl, Executive Director

Delaware Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education (DACCTE)





SPONSOR: Sen. Sokola & Rep. Gorman
Sens. Buckson, Hansen, Hoffner, Huxtable, Lockman,
Pettyjohn, Sturgeon, Townsend, Walsh, Wilson; Reps.
Burns, Bush, Collins, Dukes, Heffernan, Hilovsky,
Lambert, Morrison, Osienski, Phillips, Ross Levin,
D. Short, Yearick

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025, AS “CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH” IN
THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, the month of February 2025, has been designated as Career and Technical Education Month® by the
2 Association for Career and Technical Education; and

3 WHEREAS, career and technical education (CTE) offers all students the opportunity to gain the academic,
4 technical, and employability skills necessary for true career readiness; and

5 WHEREAS, students in career and technical education programs participate in authentic, meaningful experiences
6 that improve the quality of their education and increase their engagement and achievement; and

7 WHEREAS, career and technical education provides all students with career exploration opportunities earlier in
8 their educational experience, which enables them to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic
9 coursework and pursue established programs of study and career pathways; and

10 WHEREAS, CTE programs are offered by 31 local education agencies in Delaware, including its three technical
11 school districts, 16 comprehensive or traditional school districts, seven charter school districts, and two state institutions
12 serving at-risk youth; and

13 WHEREAS, as of the 2023-2024 academic year, Delaware high schools offered over 120 different CTE programs
14 of study across the 16 Career Clusters, while Delaware middle schools offered 16 CTE programs of study, demonstrating a
15 broad spectrum of career-focused education opportunities; and

16 WHEREAS, in the 2023-2024 academic year, 63.7% of all students in Delaware’s middle and high schools
17 participated in at least one CTE program of study, including 67.6% of high school students (30,616 out of 45,263) and
18 56.2% of middle school students (18,485 out of 32,897); and

19 WHEREAS, 8,250 high school students were enrolled in Work-Based Learning courses in the 2023-2024
20 academic year, representing 26.9% of high school CTE participants and showcasing the integration of hands-on, practical
21 experience with academic learning; and

22 WHEREAS, Delaware’s CTE concentrators achieved a four-year graduation rate of 96.4% in the 2023-2024
23 academic year, significantly exceeding the state’s target graduation rate of 90%; and

24 WHEREAS, Delaware is a leader in CTE and is uniquely positioned to be a model for the nation as these
25 programs allow Delaware students the chance to earn early college credits, industry-recognized credentials, and work
26 experience; and

27 WHEREAS, leaders from business and industry nationwide report increasing challenges related to addressing a
28 skills gap. CTE programs can fill these gaps, particularly in Delaware's key industries, like science and technology, food
29 and agriculture, manufacturing and logistics, and education and healthcare; and

30 WHEREAS, career and technical education prepares students for these and other fulfilling careers by offering
31 integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education and lead to the attainment of industry-
32 recognized credentials; and

33 WHEREAS, career and technical education programs ensure that employers have access to a qualified and
34 thriving workforce, ensuring that America is a strong and competitive economy.

35 NOW, THEREFORE:

36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 153rd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
37 Representatives concurring therein, that the General Assembly affirms the importance of Career and Technical Education
38 and hereby designates February 2025, as "Career and Technical Education Month" in the State of Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This concurrent resolution designates February 2025, as "Career and Technical Education Month" in the State of Delaware to urge all citizens to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the career and technical education programs in their communities and to support and participate in these programs to enhance their individual skills and productivity.

Author: Senator Sokola