Career And Technical Education (CTE) Works Hard

to keep students engaged

CTE educators and programs are designed to keep students in school and on the path to graduation and life success.

CTE helps all students find relevance in education by connecting learning to real-world careers. This approach boosts engagement, reduces dropout rates, and increases graduation persistence, leading to greater student success and a stronger workforce for Utah.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

WORKS HARD

FOR UTAH

JUST THE FACTS:

UTAH'S CTE STUDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE

Each CTE course taken in 11th or 12th grade increases a student's chance of graduating on time by about 2% and lowers dropout odds by nearly 2%. Utah CTE concentrators have a 96.8% graduation rate, compared to the statewide graduation rate of ~88.8%. Utah State Board of Education+1. And late-high-school cte makes education feel relevant at the very moment students are most at risk of disengaging—helping them finish strong and enter the workforce or college prepared.

UTAH'S CTE STUDENTS ARE LESS LIKELY TO DROPOUT

Taking any CTE course reduces a student's chance of dropping out by about 1.2% per course. Schools that received funding to expand CTE saw a 23% decline in dropout rates. The investment pays off in more ways than one, retaining students, creating stronger pathways and creating workforce readiness.

UTAH'S CTE STUDENTS ARE MORE ENGAGED IN THEIR EDUCATION

CTE students show higher attendance, fewer absences, and fewer course failures than non-CTE peers. When students see real-world relevance, they show up, stay engaged, and achieve more—directly feeding Utah's talent pipeline.