



Career Prep 6: Career Pathways and Clusters

Course Description & Learning Objectives

Overview

The National Career Clusters® Framework serves as an organizing tool for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, curriculum design, and instruction.

There are 16 Career Clusters in the National Career Clusters Framework, representing 79 Career Pathways to help people navigate their way to greater success in college and career.

The framework can help with creating individual student plans of study for a complete range of career options. It helps learners discover their interests and their passions, empowering them to choose the best educational pathway for them that can lead to success in high school, college, and career.

The expression - College and Career Preparation - has been used in many ways, and sometimes, this concept is divided into two, as if college and career are two different pathways.

But... aren't students going to college to further prepare for a career?

If you answered, YES, you are a global thinker. You are thinking about the total picture, not a segmented portion.

According to the Association of Career Technical Education (ACTE), Career Technical Education (CTE) prepares secondary, postsecondary, and adult learners with technical, academic, and employability skills in the workplace and in further education.

ACTE also reported that 81% of high school dropouts say CTE would have kept them in school.

The earning potential for skills developed through CTE greatly helps graduates earn more over their lifetime. If a student will be career-bound at some point in time, why not start preparing for that career in high school?

Preparing for a career may lead you down the road toward community college, university education, apprenticeships, on-job-training, or a combined approach. Regardless of the pathway, your career will eventually become a reality, and you can get started on that journey right now.



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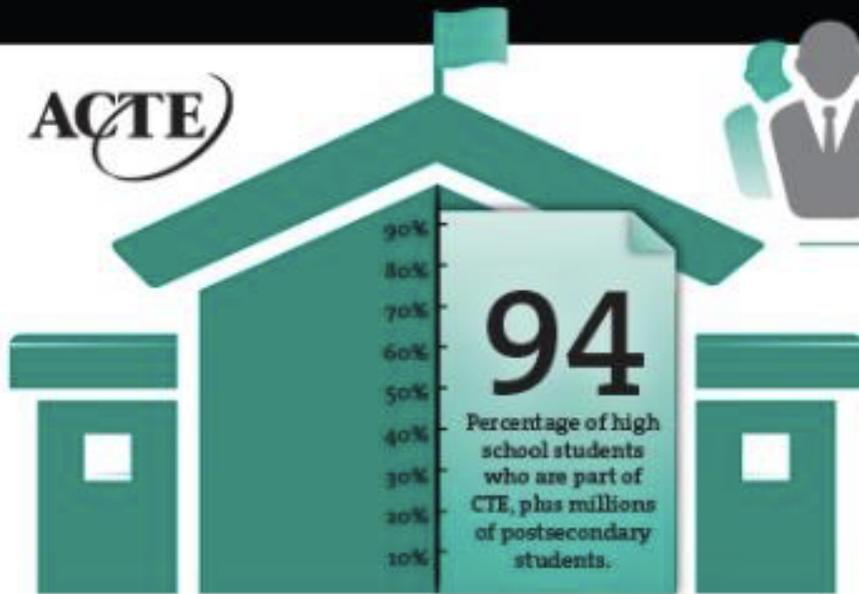
In this unit, we will talk about CTE, what information if you can gain by participating in it, and how it can help you shape your career journey ahead.

What is Career and Technical Education?

ACTE



Fulfills employer needs that are **High** skill wage demand



Includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more.



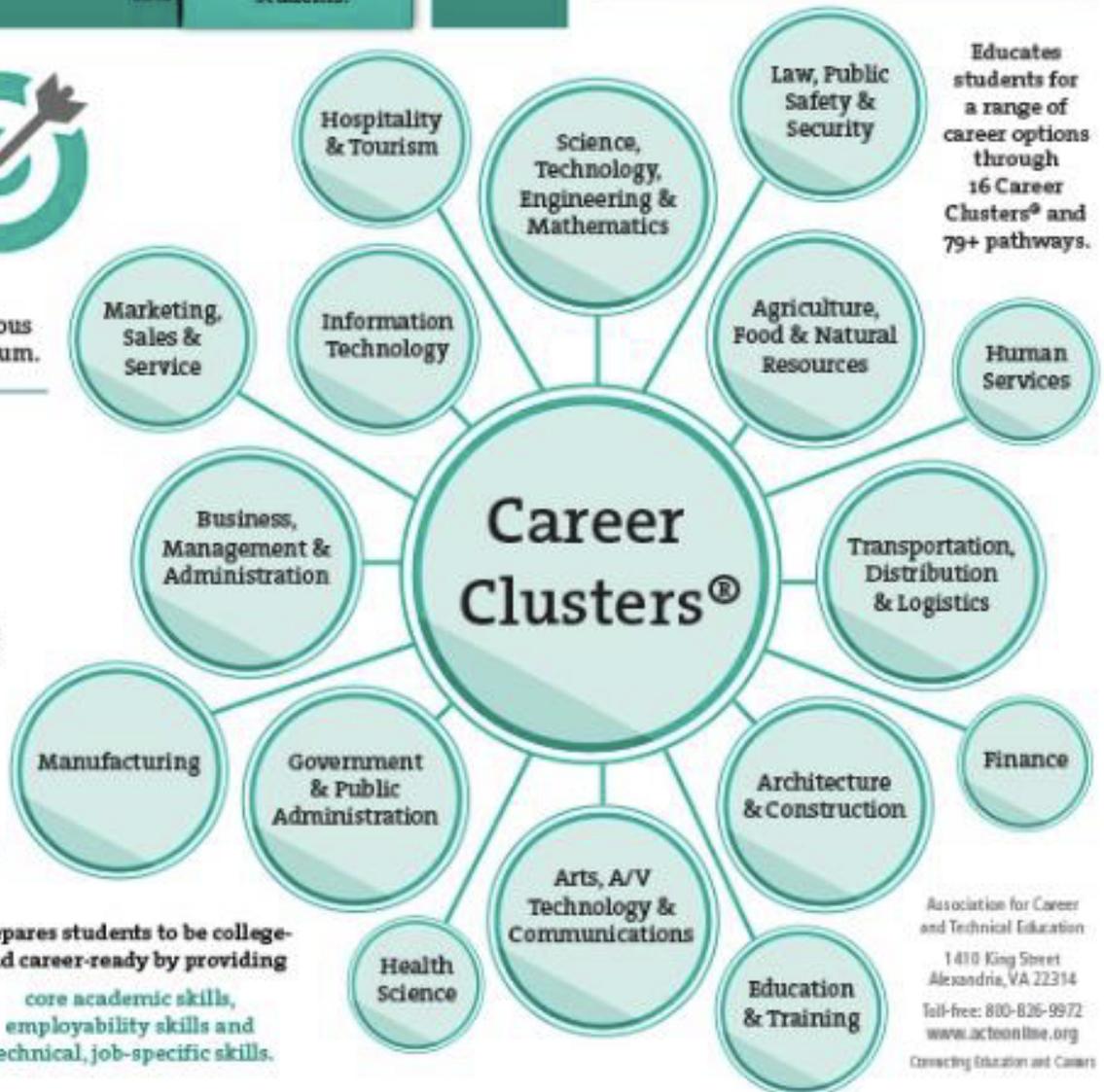
Integrates with academics in a rigorous and relevant curriculum.



Features high school and postsecondary partnerships, enabling clear pathways to certifications and degrees.



Prepares students to be college- and career-ready by providing core academic skills, employability skills and technical, job-specific skills.



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Connecting Education and Careers