CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN KANSAS FACT SHEET

A Career Technical Education offers preparation for the high-demand jobs being created by advances in technology and global competition. Kansas has a coordinated approach to Career Technical Education that spans both secondary and postsecondary opportunities and offers a streamlined and affordable pathway to a fulfilling and financially rewarding career.

STATEWIDE SUPPORT FOR CTE

Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, new funding is available for high school students participating in college Career Technical Education courses or programs. Specific incentives include:

- **Funding to pay the tuition** for high school students enrolled in a Career Technical Education course/program at Kansas community or technical colleges or institutes of technology.
- **Funding for Kansas school districts to provide transportation** of high school students to and from a community or technical college or institute of technology in which they are enrolled in a Career Technical Education course/program.
- **Funding for Kansas school districts to cover up to half the cost of an industry-recognized credential assessment** in a high-need area for high school students enrolled in a secondary or postsecondary Career Technical Education course/program.
- **Incentive awards** for Kansas high schools for each student receiving an industry-recognized credential in a high-need industry upon graduation.

Through these incentives, high school students can earn postsecondary credit and an industry-recognized credential to allow them to either enter the workforce upon graduation, or earn high wages as they work their way through postsecondary education.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN KANSAS MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Kansas secondary schools use the National Career Cluster model for Career Technical Education. The model groups job skill sets by similarities into 16 fields of study known as Career Clusters. Every state in the nation has adopted the Career Clusters model for Career Technical Education.

THE 16 CAREER CLUSTERS ARE:

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Architecture and Construction

Arts, AV Technology and Communication

Business Management and Administration

Education and Training

Finance

Government and Public Administration

Health Science

Hospitality and Tourism

Human Services

Information Technology

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

Manufacturing

Marketing

STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Within the 16 Career Clusters, the skill sets are further refined into 79 pathways. In Kansas, 31 education pathways to occupations representing the unique needs of the State have been developed. All 16 Career Clusters are represented in the pathways. This range of pathways provides opportunities to instruct and guide all students regardless of their career goals and interests.

Kansas K-12 schools are encouraged to develop a personalized plan of study for all students beginning in the eighth grade. The plan includes the academic and Career Technical Education course options that will align the student's education to a particular Career Cluster skill set. The plan continues through the first year of postsecondary education to promote a seamless transition. The plan of study should recognize and include the following:

- **Development of 21st century skills**
- **Integration of academics with Career Technical Education relevance**
- **Use of postsecondary articulation agreements to provide a jumpstart on program completion**
- **Opportunities to work toward industry-recognized credentials and/or certificates**

Today's jobs require more knowledge, improved skills and highly flexible workers. The use of Career Clusters and pathways provides students with relevant contexts for learning, leading to college and career readiness. Additional information on the Career Cluster model can be found at www.careertech.org.

POSTSECONDARY CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career Technical Education programs at the postsecondary level focus efforts and resources to prepare workers for careers in Kansas' highest-priority fields, such as healthcare, advanced manufacturing/aviation, energy and health sciences. Education and training in these critical industries will help ensure a strong Kansas economy long into the future. Successful workforce development programs improve a student's employability and earnings potential and continued profitability for employers.

Because the majority of careers require a postsecondary credential, high-quality Career Technical Education programs incorporate rigorous academic and technical standards, as well as critical workplace skills such as problem solving, communication and teamwork to ensure career and college success for students. Partnering with business and industry organizations ensures that the credentials earned by students enrolled in Career Technical Education are valued by the labor market.

Technical training focused on workforce demand offers a value proposition to students, employers, and communities. Technical education and training prepares individuals with high skills for better careers and personal enrichment, provides employers with on-demand availability of skilled workers and supplies industry with a steady pipeline of talent development for a higher quality of life for Kansans.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Learn more about Career Technical Education at **KANSAS**WORKS.com/careerzoom.

Direct your questions about Career Technical Education to careerteched@ksbor.org.