

FACTS ABOUT CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) represents approximately 27,000 teachers, administrators, educators, and counselors involved in career and technical education across the U.S. and abroad.
- There are 15.6 million secondary and postsecondary career and technical education students in the U.S. Career and technical education is offered in middle school, high schools, two-year community and technical colleges and other postsecondary schools.
- Career and technical education has a wide range of careers including: entrepreneurship, automotive technician, architect, carpenter, nursing, dental, medical technicians, careers related to food and fiber production and agribusiness, culinary arts, management and life skills, marketing, technology, and engineering.
- Career and technical education prepares both youth and adults for a wide range of careers that may require varying levels of education--from high school to postsecondary certificates to two- and four-year college degrees.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly one-third of the fastest growing occupations will require an associate's degree or a postsecondary vocational certificate. Research also indicates that 80 percent of current and emerging occupations require two-year technical degrees, while just 20 percent require baccalaureate degrees.
- Healthcare occupations are expected to make up seven of the 20 fastest growing occupations. The American Solar Energy Society and Management Information Services, Inc. published a 2009 report that forecasts the renewable energy and energy efficiency industry could generate up to \$4.3 trillion in revenue and create more than 37 million jobs (more than 17 percent of all anticipated U.S. employment) by the year 2030.
- Investing in career and technical education yields big returns. For example, in Salt Lake City, for every dollar put into CTE programs at Salt Lake Community College there will be a return of \$4.30 to the community. Wisconsin's technical colleges return a public benefit of \$10.65 for every \$1 invested and fully paid back their annual public funding after 2.2 years.

For more information on career and technical education, visit the ACTE Web site at www.acteonline.org.