



Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study Core Elements

The central construct of CTE Programs of study are continuums of knowledge and skills identified by secondary, postsecondary and workforce partners. This continuum is cohesive, standards based and non-duplicative; CTE Programs of Study incorporate technical and academic knowledge and skills as well as the Oregon Diploma Essential Skills. The student acquires and develops their knowledge and skills through a sequence of secondary and postsecondary instruction and experiences.

CTE Programs of Study are designed to prepare students for self-sufficiency and career success; they must target high wage and high demand occupations/careers. Student technical skill attainment must be measured through valid and reliable assessments aligned to industry standards.

The four core elements to the CTE Program of Study design are: 1) Content and Standards, 2) Alignment and Articulation, 3) Accountability and Assessment, 4) Student Support Services:

1. Content and Standards

Systemic approach to Career and Technical Education using standards based academic and technical skills curriculum, instruction and assessment.

A student...

- Recognizes connections between academic and technical content
- Demonstrates mastery of academic and technical content that is aligned with industry standards
- Builds confidence to compete for high skill, high wage, high demand occupations
- Applies learning through authentic experiences

2. Alignment and Articulation

Instruction is non-duplicative and students receive credit for prior coursework and learning wherever possible. Articulation agreements are developed, implemented and supported at the institutional level to ensure long term sustainability and cross system cooperation.

A student...

- Never needs to take a remedial course
- Continually progresses in knowledge and skills when ready
- Earns high school or college credit based on performance
- Makes the connection between educational preparation and entry into a career



3. Accountability and Assessment

Incorporates academic and technical skill assessment designed to meet or exceed state adjusted levels of performance.

A student...

- Monitors their own progress through their demonstration of attaining standards
- Demonstrates their technical and academic proficiency in meaningful ways
- Adapts their program to meet their personal goals based on industry requirements and performance outcomes

4. Student Support Services

All CTE students will have informational guidance tools and advising that assists them in moving through an education process in an efficient and seamless manner.

A student...

- Identifies the career path options they can follow to a chosen career
- Receives consistent and informed messages about careers and possible financial options for postsecondary education
- Takes ownership of their education through maintaining a current education plan and/or portfolio
- Applies skills and traits in a variety of settings including student organizations