

# CTE in New Mexico: Overview of Programming, Cost, and Funding

July 28, 2022

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# What is career and technical education?

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Career and technical education (CTE) is a broad term for education that combines academic and technical skills with knowledge and training needed to succeed in the present-day labor market.

## What distinguishes high-quality CTE?

- A rigorous academic curriculum is incorporated; co-equal with traditional academic instruction.
- Does not replace traditional academic learning, but instead complements it by including applied, hands-on learning.
- Links education systems to larger economic goals.
- Includes pathways to postsecondary training.
- Is offered with a clear connection to the job market.
- Is offered across a wide range of career sectors, not just traditionally vocational occupations.

# A brief history of career technical education



## **The Awakening (1770s to early 1820s)**

The right to a free public education was stressed early in the formation of the United States. Apprenticeships gave way to formal schooling in certain trades. There were inequities in who public education was offered to, with women often excluded, although preparation for teaching was an exception.

## **Independent Action (1820s to 1870s)**

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the workforce and public education systems began to work together to create a stream of workers for different jobs. Schools specialized in training students for specific jobs began to emerge, creating the basic framework for CTE. This same idea began to spread to women's colleges in the 1840s, and the roots of public high schools emerged.

## **Emergence of a Vocational Education Age (1870s to 1920s)**

The establishment of the first “manual training school” (St. Louis, MO) in 1879 set the foundation for modern CTE. The school combined hands-on learning with classroom learning. The first federal bills to support CTE are also explored.

## **Coming of Age (1920s to 1970s)**

CTE spread widely after World War I as a result of the a need for skilled, trade-focused workers. CTE expanded to include adult education and retraining citizens to re-enter the workforce. World War II caused a surge in CTE as technical skills were needed for defense purposes.

## **A Decline—and a Resurgence (1980s to today)**

Between 1982 and 2013, the number of students taking CTE courses declined by 27 percent. CTE concentrations in traditional “vocational” occupations—ex: manufacturing, agriculture, or transportation—have declined, but “new era” occupations—ex: computer science, health care, communications—increased by 238 percent.



# How is CTE funded?

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- CTE in New Mexico is funded with a mix of state and federal investments.
- Local CTE programs at school districts and charter schools may also be funded with additional sources of funding:
  - Operational funds through their state equalization guarantee (SEG allocations)
  - Private investments, grants, monetary contributions, gifts of equipment and supplies, in-kind donations from business, industry, and labor representatives, etc.



# State investments in CTE

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- In 2019, the Legislature created the NextGen CTE pilot project. This included two bills, one creating the pilot project and a second creating a corresponding CTE fund.
  - Laws 2019, Chapter 61 (House Bill 91) and Laws 2019, Chapter 2 (House Bill 44), which enacted Sections 22-1-12 and 22-1-13 NMSA 1978.
- The NextGen CTE pilot project includes key criteria for effective programs such as rigorous academics, relevant technical instruction, and pathways to postsecondary education, but it does not include opportunities for work-based learning or student supports.
- Prior to the creation of the NextGen CTE pilot project, there was no dedicated funding stream for CTE initiatives.



# State-level CTE appropriations

State NextGen CTE Funding FY20 - FY23  
(in millions)





# Federal investments in CTE

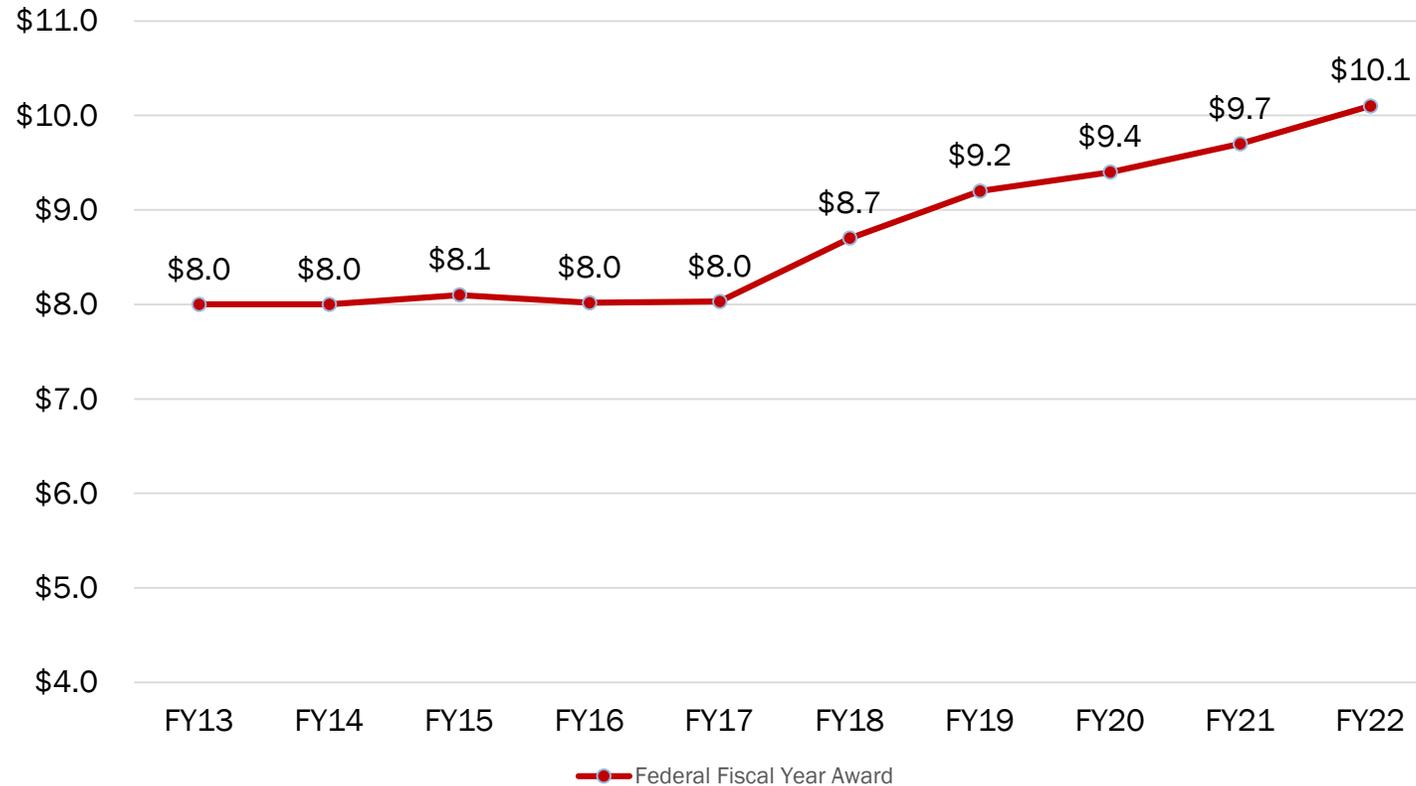
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- The primary source of federal funding for CTE is the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Act (widely known as Perkins V or Perkins). Perkins V is a federal education program that invests in secondary and postsecondary CTE programs nationwide.
- Perkins funds are distributed via a federal statutory formula that stipulates grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) and institutions of higher education (IHEs). PED administers Perkins funding.
- At the secondary level, the formula is based on the number of youths aged five through 17 within an LEA's boundaries and who are living in poverty. Postsecondary grants are based on the number of students receiving Pell grants or aid from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- The total funding is split between both secondary and postsecondary institutions. Data from PED's planning grant awards indicates about \$4.1 million is going to postsecondary (colleges) and \$5 million to secondary (high schools). Source [here](#).



# Federal (Perkins) funding in New Mexico

Federal Perkins Funding FY13 - FY23  
(in millions)





# Cost of offering CTE

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- Federal [research](#) indicates the cost of offering CTE programs may be between 20 to 40 percent higher than costs for traditional academic instruction, although costs vary by program area and level of training.
- What causes these higher costs?
  - CTE instruction typically occurs in environments that accommodate fewer students (smaller class sizes), resulting in a need for additional instructors.
  - Higher capital costs to equip classrooms with specialized equipment and supplies.

# Questions?

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