

POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS EDUCATION (CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION)

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) believes Career and Technical Education (CTE) is an essential component of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Education. CTE continually prepares students for careers that are forecasted as high demand and high paying by industry. CTE programs allow for students to access academically rigorous programs and acquire technical skills in their chosen career fields.

Definitions

- (Pre-) Apprenticeship Program: Means a Colorado-based apprenticeship program that is registered with the United States Dept. of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and Training, and designed to move an apprentice from a low or, no-skill entry-level position to full occupational proficiency.
- Career Cluster: Means a grouping of occupations and industries. These groupings are used as an organizing tool for curriculum design, instructional guidance and for seamless transition into a skilled career field of study.
- Career and Technical Education (CTE): CTE provides students with opportunities to learn core academics and valuable workforce skills. Quality CTE programs, taught by CTE endorsed instructors, utilize “programs of study” and/or “career pathways” as a framework to bridge curriculum gaps between secondary and postsecondary institutions.
- Career Pathway: Means a series of connected education and training that enable individuals to secure industry skills and certification where applicable, to obtain employment within an occupational area, and to advance to higher levels of future education and/or employment.
- Concurrent Enrollment: Means the simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in the District and in one or more postsecondary courses, including academic or career and technical education courses, which may include coursework related to apprenticeship or internship programs, at an institution of higher education pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. 22-35-101 et. seq. (Ref Policy IHEDA).
- Cooperative Education: Means a program sponsored by an educational institution in which a student is taught through a coordinated combination of specialized in-the-school instruction provided through an educational institution by qualified teachers and on-the-job training provided through a local business, agency, or organization in cooperation with the educational institution.
- Work Based Learning (WBL): Defined as a continuum of activities that occur in part or in whole in the workplace and provide the learner with hands-on, real world experience.

The Board supports the District in providing CTE and career pathway education opportunities, which meet the requirements of applicable state and federal law and are based on the Colorado Career Cluster Model of the Colorado Community College System and/or career pathways education developed under the guidance of the Colorado Workforce Development Council in accordance with C.R.S. 24-46.3-104. The Board also believes that students who qualify and choose to pursue WBL may utilize Concurrent Enrollment per C.R.S. 22-35-101 while in high school. WBL shall be developed with the support of CTE programming. Concurrent participation in CTE coursework while accessing WBL is recommended but not conditional.

Adopted July 13, 1977
Reviewed May, 1995
Revised April 11, 2018

LEGAL REFS: C.R.S. 22-32-109(1)(oo)
C.R.S. 22-35-101, et seq
C.R.S. 23-8-101 thru 103
C.R.S. 24-46.3-104

CROSS REFS: IHA, Basic Instructional Program
IHAQ-R, Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Education (Career
and Technical Education – Work-Based Learning Procedures)
IHBK, Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness
(Individual Career and Academic Plan)
IHCDA, Postsecondary Enrollment
IKF, Graduation Requirements