



CTE

WORKS

FOR

FINANCING

IT

THE

PERKINS

ACT

FUNDING CTE WORKS!

RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT

THE UNITED STATES IS FACING SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES—

high unemployment, concerns about international competitiveness and slow economic growth. Career and technical education (CTE) is meeting these challenges by preparing students and adults to work in today's economy!

Across the country, unemployment levels remain high, but there are jobs available for individuals with the right skill sets. CTE works to ensure that students have the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for true career readiness—and, therefore, it needs the support of the federal government.

Recent cuts in federal funding for CTE, provided by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins), will reduce the number of educated, skilled workers at a time when the nation needs to create jobs and rebuild its economy. This is the wrong move at the wrong time.

Perhaps most importantly, in this fiscal environment, investments in CTE provide a strong return on investment. Studies across the country have shown that funds invested in CTE yield increased wages for individuals, increased tax revenues and reductions in government spending on public assistance.

MAKE PERKINS A PRIORITY!

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act is the principal source of funding for CTE program improvement and one of the only federal programs that builds the capacity of high schools and postsecondary institutions to offer CTE programs that are academically rigorous and aligned to the needs of business and industry. Without these funds, many schools would not be able to offer cutting-edge CTE programs that prepare students for both further education and current and emerging professions within the U.S. economy.

Prior to FY 2011, Perkins funding had remained stagnant for a number of years. Today, the Perkins program is \$140 million below FY 2010 levels, and this reduction occurs while demand for CTE continues to increase. Losing funds has been devastating to many CTE programs, students and businesses across the country.

Make educating and training the nation's future workforce a priority and restore funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act!

WHY CTE? CTE WORKS!

CTE students:

are more engaged in their education

graduate from high school at higher rates

score higher on academic achievement tests

gain critical employability skills

focus on high-wage, high-skill and high-demand careers

earn more money in the labor market

are the backbone of the future U.S. workforce!