

CTE Monthly

March 2013

CTE Quick Facts

Did you know?

- ▶ 4 out of 5 secondary CTE graduates who pursued postsecondary education after high school had earned a credential or were still enrolled two years later.ⁱ
- ▶ STEM occupations such as environmental engineering and science technicians require an associate degree and will experience faster than average job growth.ⁱⁱ

Career Spotlight



The Human Services Career Cluster® consists of a range of pathways that relate to families and human needs that include early childhood development and services, counseling and mental health services, personal care services and others.

Though many sectors suffered during the recent economic recession, jobs in Human Services remained fairly steady. And future prospects within this field look promising, as economists project a 19 percent increase in Human Services occupations in the decade beginning 2008.ⁱⁱⁱ This increase may be partially driven by the retirement of “baby boomers” but could also face setbacks due to budgetary issues such as sequestration.

Notably, jobs in this area will increasingly require a postsecondary degree. By 2018, nearly 70 percent of Human Services jobs will require at least some postsecondary education. A student pursuing a career in Human Services may work as a real estate agent, community association manager, loan counselor, substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselor, social worker, massage therapist, child care worker, home care aide or fitness trainer, among other jobs.

Career and technical education (CTE) students often take part in career and technical student organizations (CTSOs) to experience personal and leadership development. Those studying Human Services typically participate in CTSOs such as the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), a CTSO that focuses on the many roles of family members and community leaders.

[Garland Independent School District](#) in Texas provides a wealth of courses to students wanting to learn about and acquire skills for careers in Human Services. Course content includes a focus on interpersonal skills, finance, child development, nutrition and wellness, and other areas. Students have the opportunity to pursue postsecondary credits through a dual enrollment program with Dallas County Community College district. In addition, students receive hands-on training through paid work-based learning experiences.

CTE Advocates Climb the Hill



ACTE President Karen Mason recognizes Rep. Glenn Thompson as a Policymaker of the Year.

ACTE held its annual [National Policy Seminar](#) (NPS) in early March. The week kicked off with a keynote address from Dr. Anthony Carnevale, a recognized expert on education and workforce issues; a panel with organizations that are recognizing and incorporating CTE, including the College Board, Opportunity Nation and the Brookings Institute; and breakout sessions on the Common Core State Standards and Common Career Technical Core, teacher evaluation and effectiveness, media advocacy and new Members of Congress.

For the second day of NPS, attendees climbed Capitol Hill for a panel session at the Capitol Visitors Center, which featured key policy staff from both sides of the aisle and a presentation of the Policymaker of the Year award, which went to Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-PA) and Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI), co-chairs of the Congressional CTE Caucus. Afterwards, many CTE advocates met with state and district policymakers to tell stories and share data that illustrates CTE’s effectiveness at engaging and educating students and meeting workforce needs.

You can learn more about NPS at the ACTE [website](#).

CTE Fosters American Competitiveness

The United States is only as strong as its workforce. CTE plays a vital role in developing a well-educated workforce that supports American productivity and innovation through its emphasis on college and career readiness, including academic, technical and employability skills; its partnerships with industry; and its focus on meaningful postsecondary attainment that leads to careers that drive the global economy.

CTE prepares students for jobs at the forefront of the global economy, including the majority of the fastest-growing occupations identified in the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2012–2013 *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, and jobs in all 14 sectors identified by the Department of Labor’s High Growth Job Training Initiative.^{iv}

i U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, [Postsecondary and Labor Force Transitions Among Public High School Career and Technical Education Participants](#), 2011.

ii U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, [Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012–13 Edition](#).

iii Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, NRCCTE and NASDCTEc, [Career Clusters: Forecasting demand for high school through college jobs: 2008-2018](#), 2011.

iv ACTE, [Career and Technical Education’s Role in American Competitiveness](#), 2013.

School Spotlight

New York Harbor School

Urban Assembly New York Harbor School (NYHS) is a unique high school located on Governors Island in New York City, established in 2003.

Students at New York Harbor School enroll in core academic classes as well as choosing one of six CTE programs—Aquaculture, Marine Biology Research, Marine Service Technology, Ocean Engineering, Scientific Diving and Vessel Operations—as part of their education. The curriculum ranges from raising aquatic plants and animals to learning about marine systems such as electrical, fuel, hydraulics, refrigeration, propulsion and plumbing systems to designing, assembling and testing submersible robots. The school collaborates with more than 60 businesses, industry groups, postsecondary partners and foundations.^v

During their studies at New York Harbor School, students earn industry-recognized certifications and licenses as well as postsecondary credits, and may gain experience presenting their work at events and to local government agencies. While more than 80 percent of students are classified as economically disadvantaged, 95 percent of graduates go on to postsecondary education.^{vi}

You can learn more about NYHS at their website, www.newyorkharborschool.org.



Secretary of Education Arne Duncan meets NYHS students during his visit in February 2013.

Photo courtesy of Andy Kropa for the U.S. Department of Education

Student Spotlight



Photo courtesy of the [National Research Center for CTE \(NRCCTE\)](#)

According to Barbara W. Trent, Business Professionals of America (BPA) Ohio State Advisor, University of Cincinnati student Sarah Crist shines as a leader in her school and professional roles from high school to college to internships.

In high school she held leadership roles in BPA as the Treasurer and President of the Ohio Association and Historian on the National Officer Team.

Now a junior in college, Crist majors in Communication and Organizational Leadership. She has been on the Dean's List since her first quarter and is currently the President-elect of her sorority, Delta Delta Delta. She is a Resident Advisor in her dorm and a tutor for first-year students. In 2012, Crist interned at Sony/Columbia Studios, where she was responsible for researching and brainstorming for a wide variety of different media outlets, facilitating and executing advanced screenings for movies and helping to distribute promotional items in a tri-state area.

She currently is an intern with the Ohio BPA State Advisor and is actively working with state officer trainings and planning the 2013 State Leadership Conference.^{vii}

Interest in STEM Careers Rising

Since 2004, interest in STEM careers has risen by over 20 percent. The majority of STEM interest lies in the Southern region of the United States, with 36 percent of those students expressing an interest in STEM majors and careers.

There are currently over 7.4 million U.S. workers in the STEM field, which is expected to increase to an estimated 8.65 million workers by 2018. However, these numbers do not include self-employed STEM workers. Accountants and auditors comprise the largest number of STEM jobs, while there is a shortage of manufacturing workers with STEM skills.

Students are increasingly more interested in STEM majors than they were in the past. Mechanical Engineering and Biology rank as the top two STEM majors, and reports show that females are likely to be interested in fields such as Chemistry, Marine Biology and Biology.

The creation of mobile application technology has created a new market in the STEM career world and opened up approximately 311,000 jobs. This has contributed to the projected rise in STEM jobs in Computing and Engineering, which are estimated to be the bulk of STEM jobs by 2018 along with Physical Science, Life Sciences and Mathematics.^{viii}

CTE plays an important role in equipping students to pursue and excel in STEM fields.

v U.S. Department of Education Homeroom Blog, [Students at New York's Harbor School Chart Their Course for College and Careers](#), February 25, 2013.

vi [NYHS website](#).

vii [NRCCTE](#) E-newsletter, *In honor of CTE Month, CTSO student stories and survey results*, February 14, 2013.

viii [STEMblog](#), *STEMconnector*® and *My College Options*® Release National Report Linking STEM Student Interest with STEM Jobs by State and Job Type, January 14, 2013.



Steve DeWitt
Director of Public Policy
703-683-9311
sdewitt@acteonline.org



David Beckett
Advocacy Manager
301-588-9630
dbeckett@careertech.org

This newsletter is a collaborative publication of the Association for Career and Technical Education and the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium. It aims to keep Congress informed about CTE events, data, best practices and student success stories.