

2026-2027

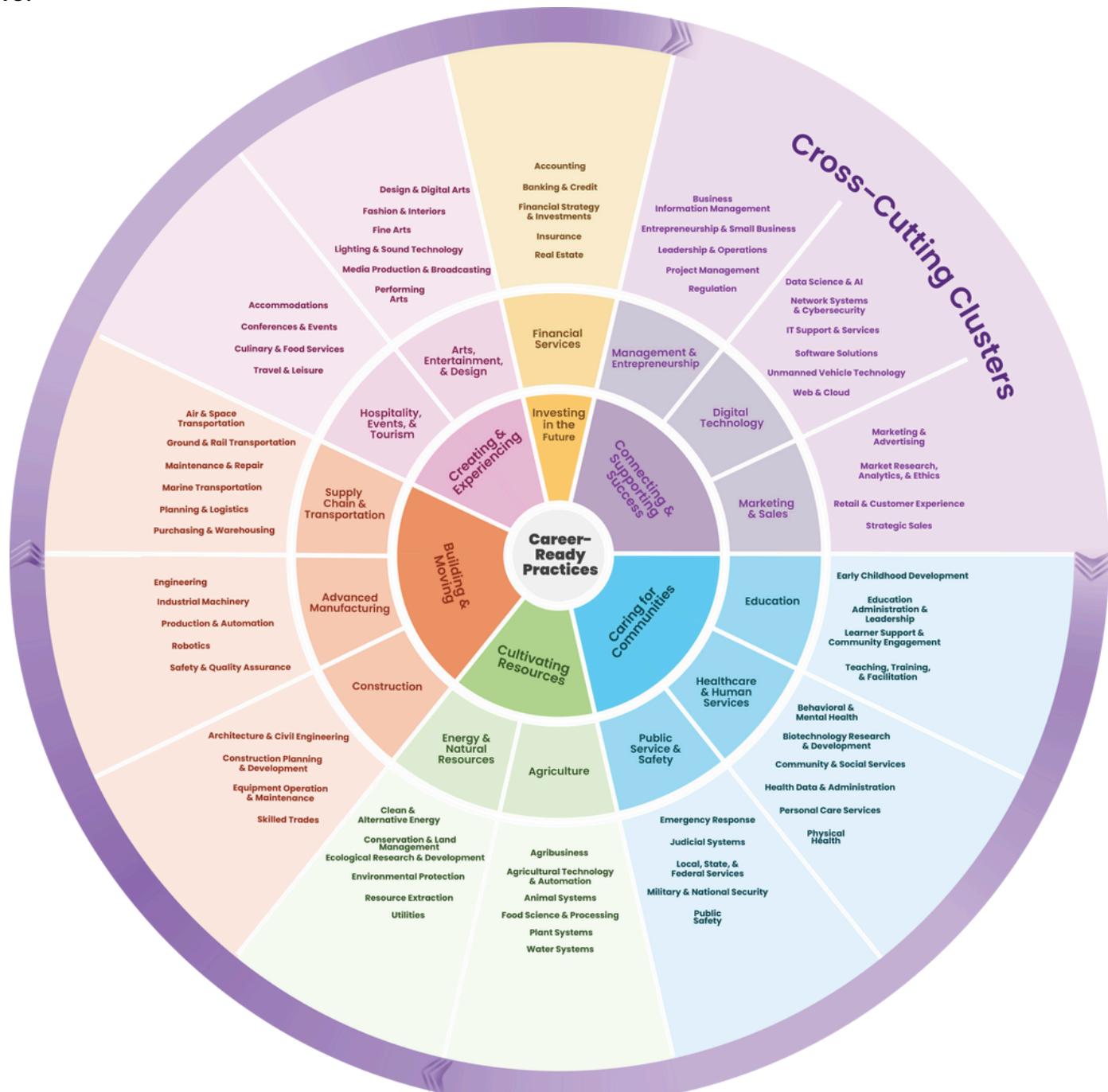
CTE Pathway Guide

Enlistment. Enrollment. Employment.



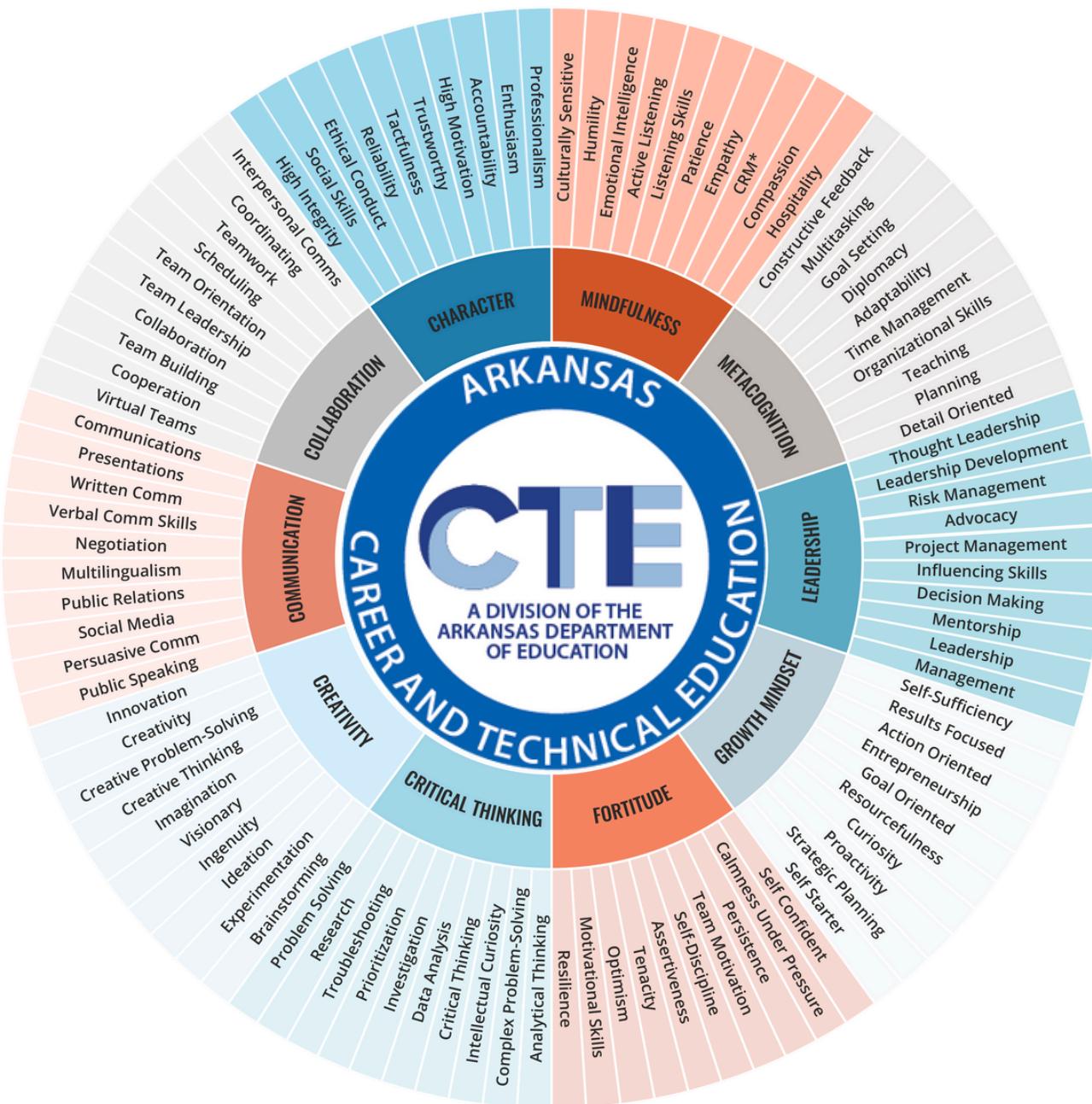
The National Career Clusters® Framework

The modern Framework consists of 14 Clusters and 72 Sub-Clusters that serve as the primary organizing structures for CTE programs. These structures are supported by five Cluster Groupings aligned to purpose and impact of included careers, and three Cross-Cutting Clusters that provide both skills and careers that can stand alone and intersect with all other Clusters. Twelve Career-Ready Practices to ensure that every program includes the skills that are essential to every career and life.



Durable Skills

Durable Skills—such as communication, problem-solving, teamwork, adaptability, and creativity—are intentionally embedded throughout CTE pathways and standards. By integrating these skills into coursework, hands-on experiences, and program assessments, students not only gain technical knowledge but also develop the foundational abilities needed to succeed in any career, postsecondary education, or lifelong learning endeavor. Embedding durable skills ensures that CTE programs produce well-rounded, workforce-ready graduates who can adapt to evolving industry demands and contribute meaningfully to their communities.



Course Revision

Resource

This resource is designed to support educators, administrators, and industry partners in understanding the rationale behind the revisions and how they better prepare students for enlistment, enrollment, or employment in high-wage, high-demand careers.

DCTE Pathway Revisions Spreadsheet

- All Pathways, Merged Pathways, Deleted Pathways, and Elective Courses
 - Course Sequencing
 - Course Names
 - Licensure Codes
 - Secondary Credit Course Code
 - Postsecondary Credit Course Code
 - Standards Revision Year

Course Levels

Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways are designed to provide students with progressive opportunities to explore, develop, and apply skills within a specific career field. Each level builds upon the previous, guiding students from foundational learning to advanced application and industry readiness.

- *Level 1* – Foundational Course: Introduces students to a career field, essential concepts, and basic technical and employability skills.
- *Level 2* – Concentrator Course: Builds on foundational knowledge through hands-on experiences, technical skill development, and alignment to industry standards.
- *Level 3* – Completer Course: Allows students to demonstrate mastery through advanced applications, work-based learning, or industry-recognized credentials, signaling readiness for postsecondary education or the workforce.

Pathway Continuation

As a continuation of the pathway, students may further enhance their skills through additional coursework beyond the leveled courses.

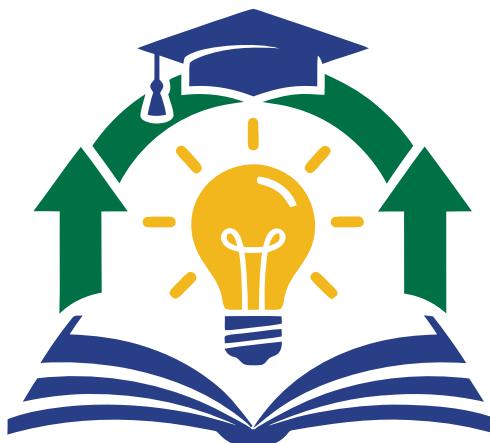
- Secondary Career Center Programs
- Career Practicum
- Pre-Apprenticeship
- Youth Apprenticeship
- Independent Study

These courses extend the connection between classroom learning and real-world application.

Pathway Standards

Pathway Standards outline the skills and knowledge students should master at each stage of a CTE pathway. They guide instruction, ensure consistency across courses, and align learning with industry and postsecondary expectations. Click on the cluster for the pathway to be directed to their standards.

- [Advanced Manufacturing](#)
- [Agriculture](#)
- [Arts, Entertainment, & Design](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Digital Technology](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Energy & Natural Resources](#)
- [Financial Services](#)
- [Healthcare & Human Services](#)
- [Hospitality, Events, & Tourism](#)
- [Management & Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Marketing & Sales](#)
- [Public Service & Safety](#)
- [Supply Chain Transportation](#)



Secondary Career Center Guide

As students advance through their CTE pathways, they may continue their skill development at a Secondary Career Center. These centers offer advanced, hands-on training that aligns with industry needs and supports pathway completion. The Secondary Career Center Guide provides a full list of course codes and offerings available to students.



K-12 Educator Guide for Secondary Career Centers



2026-2027 Guide



Pathway Charts

Pathway Charts outline the full course sequence for each Career and Technical Education pathway, from foundational to advanced levels. They show available course codes, delivery locations, and opportunities for students to continue their learning through Secondary Career Centers, concurrent credit, or work-based learning experiences. These charts serve as a clear visual guide for students, educators, and administrators to ensure alignment within each pathway. Click the chart to see each pathway's chart.

Advanced Manufacturing Engineering

Careers that use engineering principles to develop and improve manufacturing processes and systems and to design products. Professionals in this field tackle production challenges, boost efficiency, leverage advanced technologies and contribute to the sector's advancement. The manufacturing sector encompasses numerous types of engineering, including mechanical, electrical, chemical, materials, and industrial. This pathway also involves research and development and prototyping for emerging products and systems.

High School Campus Local Credit		High School Campus Concurrent Credit
Level 1 Course Introduction to Engineering 493960 590030	Level 2 Course Engineering I 493970 590910	Level 3 Course Engineering II 493980 592710
Pathway Continuation		
Career Practicum: Engineering 594540		
Pre-Apprenticeship: Engineering 594840		
Youth Apprenticeship: Engineering 596730		
Independent Study: Engineering 493990		
K-12 Educator Guide Secondary Career Center		

The page features three circular logos at the bottom. The first logo on the left is green with a white 'H' and the text 'HIGH WAGE HIGH DEMAND'. The middle logo is red, white, and blue with the letters 'FSA' in the center. The third logo on the right is blue with the text 'ARKANSAS CTE' and 'A DIVISION OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION' around a central circle.