Cybersecurity Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs have proven to be an effective approach to prepare secondary and postsecondary students to succeed in cybersecurity careers.

CTE provides students with the academic, technical, and employability skills through rigorous and applied coursework, work-based learning experiences, dual or concurrent enrollment, and industry-recognized certifications.

### WHY CTE?

CTE provides opportunities for students to gain technical, academic, and professional leadership skills for college and career success.

- CTE works for high school students
- CTE works for college students
- CTE works for the economy
- CTE works for business

The top 3 benefits for students are the attainment of:

- **COMPETENCIES** to qualify them for a cybersecurity career
- **EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS** such as teamwork
- **REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES** to apply learning

Students can take advantage of CTE cybersecurity content through:

- Individual CTE courses
- Sequence of classes
- Career Academies
- Program of Study
- Content modules across the 16 career clusters

CTE Programs of Study (POS) are authorized and funded through the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. A high-quality POS includes the 10 components of the **Programs of Study Design Framework**, such as:

- providing non-duplicative progression of courses that align secondary to postsecondary education;
- including opportunities for dual or concurrent enrollment programs;
- leading to an industry-recognized certification, certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate of baccalaureate degree; and
- including work-based learning experiences, such as apprenticeships and internships.

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**U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE)** provides oversight regarding the preliminary structure of CTE program. OCTAE administers CTE program funded under the Perkins Act.

**The National Career Clusters®** provides the organizing structure for delivering quality CTE programs with 16 career clusters and 79+ pathways.
Cybersecurity is most often included in the Information Technology Career Cluster.
Visit [https://careertech.org](https://careertech.org).