



This is the Future of our City

Where Education and Workforce Meet: Strengthening the Pipeline to Success through Career and Technical Education



Denver Public Schools has set out on an ambitious path to dramatically improve how we're preparing students for college and career. By implementing a pipeline of Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways, DPS is preparing our future leaders for the very jobs that are in highest demand in Denver – ensuring that we are strengthening our city and our students' futures.

Analysis of Denver's high-skill highest-demand jobs now, and projections for the future.



Engagement of industry leaders to help inform program design based on the skills and content knowledge students need to find success in higher education and careers in these fields.



Development of five rigorous CTE pathways focused on STEM-related careers including:

- Engineering and Energy
- Biomedical and Healthcare
- Applied Manufacturing
- Digital and IT
- Finance

In April 2014, DPS was chosen as one of 24 organizations nationwide to receive a four-year grant to enhance career-focused pathways in STEM. In partnership with the City of Denver, the Office of Economic Development, two and four year colleges and universities, and corporate and industry partners, DPS has launched CTE Pathways in nine high schools.

The Need

Our schools must do more to engage, prepare, and inspire college- and career-ready students, and our STEM programs must be better aligned to employer and postsecondary needs.

- According to the U.S. Department of Education, many high school graduates lack exposure to learning that links their work in school to college and careers – especially in the critically important fields of STEM.
- Colorado's students are not adequately prepared for STEM occupations. Only 22 percent of 2009 high school graduates are on track to attain postsecondary credentials.
- Moreover, many of America's international competitors offer students a more rigorous and relevant education in their middle and high school years.

Research shows that students engaged in a CTE pathway have up a 30 percent greater likelihood of graduating high school than their counterparts.



What makes CTE Pathways so successful?

A clear sight line to the future

CTE students' studies are tied at every step to the opportunities that will be available to them after graduation – whether it's higher education and graduate work, or immediate employment and a successful career.

Real world applications

Pathways courses all involve work-based learning such as job shadowing, internships and site visits. These experiences continually expose students to applications for their learning and skills in industry and higher education.

Focused and engaged students

As a result, students enrolled in CTE pathways are far more likely to complete their studies and graduate from high school; and far more likely to become the future leaders we need to help Denver thrive.

Get Engaged!

Denver is leading the nation in this work, and creating a pipeline of talent specifically and strategically built to serve our city – and our nation – now and in the future. There are many ways to participate in this exciting expansion of Career and Technical Education in DPS.

- Corporate partnership options include financial support, in-kind support, and participation in job shadowing, mentorship, corporate volunteerism, career fairs and summer industry academies.
- Individual donations are also needed to purchase scientific equipment, supplies and computer equipment.

Read more about CTE pathways and how you can engage at www.dpsfoundation.org/CTE.

For more information about CTE:

Mary McGee

Vice President, Development
(720) 423-3897 - Direct
mmcgee@dpsfoundation.org

For information on corporate volunteerism:

Nicole Capage-Brown

Director, School Partners Program
(720) 423-3226 - Direct
ncapage-brown@dpsfoundation.org