

# BUILDING PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides approximately \$1.1 billion annually to support innovation and expand access to high-quality career and technical education (CTE)—helping to build the capacity of secondary and postsecondary institutions and to serve millions of students nationwide through CTE programs that are academically rigorous and aligned to the needs of business and industry. This foundational support for CTE program improvement is essential to moving our economy forward. However, funding has not kept pace with the needs of students, programs and their communities.

## CTE Prepares Students for College and Careers

### Student Motivation for Taking CTE Courses



**63%**  
Preparing for life after high school



**65%**  
Skill development

- Learning new skills
- Improving existing skills

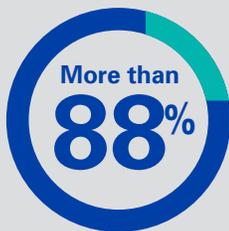


**65%**  
Career exploration

- Learning more about a specific career
- Exploring different career areas

### Postsecondary Plans

### Career Plans

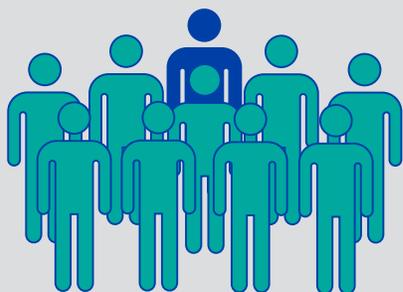


of students taking CTE courses are planning to pursue postsecondary education within one year of high school graduation.



Overall, 6 in 10 students are planning to pursue a career related to the CTE area they are studying. Only 1 in 10 said they are not planning to continue on to a career in the CTE area they are studying, and 3 out of 10 are not sure.

## Perkins Funding Has Not Kept Pace With Need



**Nearly 9 out of 10**

CTE teachers report their programs rely on the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act as the primary source of specific federal funding for CTE.



Almost half of CTE educators say their program budgets have decreased in recent years (11% say they have gone up and 46% say they have remained stable).



From FY 2007 through FY 2016, total Perkins grant funding to states declined by 13 percent.



In FY 2016, Congress appropriated over \$170 million less in Perkins grant funding to states than it did in FY 2007.

For more information about CTE, visit [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org).