

CONNECTICUT CTE PROFILE

1. Governance Structure/Delivery Model

Career and Technical Education in Connecticut is delivered primarily through the seventeen regional comprehensive high schools that comprise the CT Technical High School System (CTHSS). Information on the district can be found on the website: www.cttech.org

As a district, the CTHSS is run by a Superintendent of Schools with direction provided by the CTHSS Board. The district office (Home Office) is located in Middletown, CT. The seventeen schools are located throughout the state, comprising the largest secondary school system in Connecticut with an enrollment of approximately ten thousand students. The school principal is the instructional leader and operational manager of each school. Program consultants, working out of the Home Office, provide technical support for the schools.

Information about the CTHSS' strategic plan is contained in the document *Tomorrow's Framework*. Click on the following link to access this document: <https://www.cttech.org/assets/uploads/files/About/Superintendent/StrategicPlan-TomorrowsFramework.pdf>

2. Primary Funding Sources

The Technical High School System is administered directly by the CT Department of Education and, as such, everyone who works in the CTHSS is a state employee. The seventeen schools are state owned property and are operated with state funds. Budget information on the district and individual schools is located on the CTHSS website: <https://www.cttech.org/about/budget-information>

The approval to fill vacant positions or to create new personnel positions is granted by the state Office of Policy and Management. The creation of new positions, and the hiring of new employees is not controlled by the school principals. Also, when a vacancy does occur, an employee from another district school may have contractual rights to lateral transfer. Since all employees of the CTHSS are state employees, the district is subject to periodic hiring freezes imposed by the Executive Branch.

3. Transportation

While the schools use production buses to transport students to off-site production work and for athletic and field trips, the transportation of students to and from their home towns is the responsibility of their towns of residence. There are no after-school late buses provided by the technical schools, since they do not own the "yellow" school buses

4. School Calendar

All schools share a common calendar, and all follow the same district-wide policies and practices.

5. Program Model

All schools in the district follow the same program model.

Cycle A: Grades 9 & 12 in academics

Cycle B: Grades 10 & 11 in shop

Schools follow a 6-day rotating schedule, so all students have 91 days in academics and 91 days in CTE for 182 student contact days

Freshmen go through a 3-Phase Exploratory experience:

Phase 1: all freshmen visit each CTE program for 2 days

Phase 2: all freshmen spend 4 days in each of their top 3 choices from Phase 1

Phase 3: all freshmen select their #1 choice for their major and spend

Cycle B in their permanent shop for remainder of the year

Class size is determined by teachers collective bargaining agreement.

Teacher preparation time is also set by collective bargaining at 5 periods per week.

Each technical high school has long-standing partnerships through various Career Technical Education Advisory Committees (CTEAC). CTEAC is comprised of businesses, industry leaders, CTHSS Career Technical Education administrators and teachers. The goal of these committees is to ensure that in every capacity CTHSS is meeting and exceeding current industry standards in:

- Program curricula;
- Program facilities;
- State-of-the-art technology;
- Occupational outlook;
- Employability skills; and
- Workplace credentials.