



# Career and Technical Education Terminology



INDIANA COMMISSION for  
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**CTE (Career & Technical Education)** – an educational model that spans secondary to postsecondary to integrate rigorous academic content and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and/or careers in current or emerging professions. CTE programs focus on providing instruction through real-world, applied settings and often include the opportunity to earn postsecondary credit and postsecondary credentials, and to participate in work-based learning.

**CTE Concentrator** – a student who has completed at least two advanced CTE courses. Indiana requires students to complete the CTE course sequence of the Principles, Concentrator A, and Concentrator B courses in a single pathway (see image on next page).

**CTSO (Career & Technical Student Organization)** – co-curricular organizations that help students gain hands-on experience, compete in their field of study, network with peers and professionals, etc. (i.e. FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, HOSA, DECA).

**Eligible Agency** – a State board designated or created consistent with State law as the sole State agency responsible for the administration of career and technical education in the State or for the supervision of the administration of career and technical education in the State.

**Eligible Recipient** – a local educational agency, an area career and technical education school, an educational service agency, or an eligible institution or consortium of eligible institutions eligible to receive assistance under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V).

**IACTE (Indiana Association of Career & Technical Education)** – State subsidiary to the national Association of CTE (ACTE). Leads fall professional development conference, instructor mentoring programs and annual awards for excellence ceremony.

**IATED (Indiana Association of Career & Technical Education Districts)** – professional organization for Area District directors (53 districts in IN) to collaborate on the CTE work they are doing in their local districts.

**InTERS (Indiana Technical Education Reporting System)** – the data portal where CTE data is entered by area districts and accessed for funding, reporting, etc.



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**NLPS (Next Level Programs of Study)** – Indiana’s new secondary CTE programs of study that were recently redesigned to improve the consistency, quality and intentionality of CTE programming.

## NLPS Course Sequence



**Perkins V (Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act)** – federal law and grant program that mandates the administration and implementation of CTE programming in the United States.

**Postsecondary Credential** – a promoted industry certification or state issued license that counts as a Postsecondary Readiness Competency for Indiana’s Graduation Pathways, or a postsecondary certificate, technical certificate, or degree.

**Program of Study** – a coordinated, nonduplicative sequence of academic and technical content at the secondary and postsecondary level that is aligned with the needs of industries in the economy of the State, region, Tribal community, or local area. The course sequence progresses in specificity (beginning with all aspects of an industry or career cluster and leading to more occupation-specific instruction) and has multiple entry and exit points that incorporate the attainment of postsecondary credentials.

**Measures of Program Quality** – these represent the priority student outcomes that Indiana has chosen to track and monitor to help evaluate and promote program quality. The measures are:

- **Postsecondary Credential Attainment** – the percentage of CTE concentrators in a cohort who attained a postsecondary credential.
- **Postsecondary Credit Attainment** – the percentage of CTE concentrators in a cohort who earned at least 9 postsecondary credits in courses that map toward a postsecondary certificate or degree program.
- **Work-Based Learning (WBL) Participation** – the percentage of CTE concentrators in a cohort who participated in at least 75 hours of a work-based learning experience where the student has a work record in a position(s) aligned to the student’s career pathway on their graduation plan.