



SECONDARY SCHOOL

WHETHER YOU ARE A STUDENT MAPPING YOUR FUTURE OR A PARENT EXPLORING OPTIONS, THIS PORTAL IS YOUR GATEWAY TO BUILDING A THRIVING CAREER RIGHT HERE IN CONNECTICUT.

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL & IMMEDIATE REGIONAL CAREER/TRAINING PATHWAYS.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR CONNECTICUT'S NEXT GENERATION OF AEC TALENT.

Learn more about comprehensive pathways connecting students to rewarding careers, starting with immersive training at the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) campuses and local public high school career academies.

Discover how motivated students can get a head start through **Dual Enrollment** and **Early College Experience** (ECE) programs—earning transferable college or trade credits before graduation—while exploring **state-registered youth pre-apprenticeship programs** that offer paid, hands-on experience and direct hourly credit toward professional licensing.



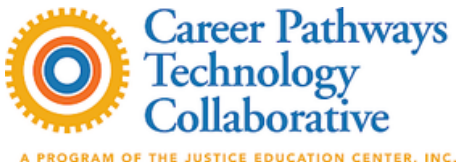
CTECS (CT TECHNICAL EDUCATION & CAREER SYSTEM)

This state-run system operates 17 technical high schools (plus adult education and aviation centers) across Connecticut. They provide a unique "dual education" model where students split their time between rigorous academics and immersive, hands-on training in over 30 trade technologies (such as Advanced Manufacturing, Construction Trades, Automotive, Health Technology, & STEM).



THE CTECS CAREER ACADEMY PROGRAM

For students attending traditional comprehensive local high schools, CTECS partners with local school districts to offer dedicated afternoon or after-school career academy seats (typically grades 10–12). This allows public school students to remain enrolled at their local "sending" high school for morning academics, then receive direct transportation to a nearby technical school (such as Kaynor Tech in Waterbury or Wilcox Tech in Meriden) for technical and employability training, earning high school CTE credits and trade certificates.



LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL CAREER ACADEMIES

Many local public high schools also operate their own specialized, in-house Career Academies or "Learning Corridors" (often supported by initiatives like the Career Pathways Technology Collaborative). Examples include contextualized construction laborers' or automotive pathways integrated directly into the standard high school day.



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF CONNECTICUT

High school students can participate in this free, nationwide after-school program to work directly with local architects, engineers, and construction managers. Teams collaborate on real-world design and construction challenges, tour local job sites, master industry-standard digital design tools, and compete for exclusive college scholarships and paid summer externships.



SECONDARY SCHOOL

**DUAL
ENROLLMENT
& EARLY
COLLEGE
EXPERIENCE
(ECE)**

UConn

**EARLY COLLEGE
EXPERIENCE**

UConn EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE (ECE)

A prominent dual-enrollment program allowing motivated high school students to take authentic, university-level courses at their own high school. Students earn dual credit (both high school credits toward graduation and transferable college credits from the University of Connecticut).

COLLEGE CAREER PATHWAYS (CCP)

In partnership with the Connecticut State Community College (CT State) system, dual enrollment and articulation agreements enable students to earn concurrent college credits in career and technical fields (such as engineering technology, business, or healthcare) before they graduate, drastically reducing future tuition costs.



P-TECH MODELS

Certain comprehensive pathways utilize the P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) model, which structures a seamless timeline for students to graduate with a high school diploma and an industry-recognized Associate Degree at no cost, combined with direct mentoring and work-based learning.

YOUTH PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

REGISTERED YOUTH PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS

Regulated by the Connecticut Department of Labor (CT DOL) Office of Apprenticeship Training, these programs allow high school students (ages 16 and older) to get a head start on a formal registered apprenticeship.



EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

Through specialized Work-Based Learning (WBL) programs, students can be placed with industry employers during trade instructional hours. They receive a paycheck, log real hours on job sites, and earn credit toward both their high school requirements and their future official apprenticeship hours.



LICENSING AND CREDENTIAL ALIGNMENT

These programs structure their coursework to satisfy the "related classroom instruction" hours required by the CT Department of Consumer Protection for professional licensing in licensed trades (like Electrical, Plumbing, and HVAC) as well as non-licensed sectors like Advanced Manufacturing. Students also commonly graduate with credentials like OSHA 10, First Aid/CPR, or ServSafe.

