



STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S CAREER-READY COMMISSION

Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

Definition/Purpose

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are an integral part of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. As basic components of CTE programs, they support and enhance school-based and work-based learning. CTSOs have the ability to connect education and careers, motivate students, encourage higher-level academics, and build students' employability skills.

Outcomes

Each of these seven CTSOs attracts students from different CTE curriculum areas.

- DECA – Marketing Education
- FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) - Business and Information Technology Education
- FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) - Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- FFA - Agricultural Education
- HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) - Health Occupations Education
- SkillsUSA - Trade and Industrial Education
- TSA (Technology Student Association) - Technology Education

Essential Practices

Student competitions challenge students to apply classroom learning and take those skills to the work-based environment. They apply leadership and academic knowledge in real world situations. The assessment of student performance is achieved through oral and written applications. CTSOs offer a wide variety of competitive events, ranging from entrepreneurship which is found in every CTE program to highly specialized areas including forensic medicine.

<i>Competitive Events of Career & Technical Student Organizations</i>	<i>Skill Development</i>		<i>Leadership Development</i>	
	High School	Middle School	High School	Middle School
CTSO				
DECA	37	0	37	0
FBLA	42	13	15	4
FCCLA	21	17	23	17
FFA	38	42	50	50
HOSA	26	0	12	0
SkillsUSA	58	0	28	0

Career and Technical Student Organizations (continued)

Essential Practices

CTSO activities both in and out of the classroom help students prepare to become productive citizens and assume positive roles in the global society. Students demonstrate community awareness through a variety of service learning activities.

Examples of Service Learning Activities

DECA	MDA is the state and national charity. Local chapters raised over \$32,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association to send children to summer camp. DECA members serve their local communities through food and coat drives, raising scholarship funds, and a variety of other local initiatives.
FBLA	March of Dimes is the state and national charity, with more than \$4,000 raised. Students participated in Pennies for Babies Walk as a part of the March of Dimes.
FCCLA	“Feed the Children” (FTC) is the National Outreach Project. Funds secure food and other essentials for 18 percent of the population (13 million children in the United States alone).
FFA	Collected goods for the NC Food Bank, performed over 25,000 hours of community service, and provided hay to farmers in drought-stricken North Carolina.
HOSA	Autism Speaks is the national HOSA project. Recognized at the 2007 national HOSA conference for making the top financial contribution (more than \$20,000 to Autism Speaks).
SkillsUSA	Conducted six statewide community service projects. Local chapters do more than 235 community service projects. Projects include building homes for Habitat for Humanity, building wheel chair ramps, and preparing food baskets for needy families.
TSA	American Cancer Society State and National Service Project. Relay for Life is sponsored by local chapters for additional financial contributions.

CTSO Membership

In 2008, there were 47,045 students in North Carolina participating in Career and Technical Student Organizations.

Leadership

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