



2025

***FLORIDA CAREER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION
PROGRAM QUALITY
AUDIT REPORT***

GET THERE
Florida's Workforce Education Initiative



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

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Introduction

Since its inception in 2019, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Audit has advanced to strengthen the effectiveness of CTE programs across the state, ensuring they meet the evolving needs of students and the workforce.

In accordance [Rule 6A-10.0342, Florida Administrative Code \(F.A.C.\)](#), and in alignment with [s. 1003.491\(5\), Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), the CTE Audit satisfies the requirement of [s. 1003.492, F.S.](#), to collect student achievement and performance data on career education programs and does the following:

- **Defines quality** for secondary and postsecondary CTE programs with the establishment of metrics and **primary and alternate targets**.
- **Establishes required actions** for agency programs failing to meet all metrics of quality. Programs that do not meet all metrics are required to phase out or provide evidence justifying their continuation within 45 days.
- **Initiates a new annual program review cycle** that ensures CTE programs align with Florida's workforce needs while maintaining high standards of quality and effectiveness. Program quality consequences associated with the CTE Audit review cycle are effective beginning with the 2026 CTE Audit.

To ensure the rigorous but fair evaluation of programs, programs are assessed but exempt from accountability outcomes; specifically phase out, if any of the below scenarios are true for the CTE program:

1. **The program is new.** A new program is a CTE program that is offered for the first time at the state level, or at a district or an FCS institution within three years of approval. New programs are exempt from phase out due to the lack of data needed to calculate a three-reporting-year average for each metric, as needed for each alternate target.
2. **The program is in teach out.** A program in teach out is a program that is slated for deletion from state frameworks or in teaching out at the local level. Once a program is in teach out, agencies may no longer enroll new students and must "teach out" remaining students.
3. **The program has less than ten (10) students in the denominator.** A program shall be exempt from phase out consideration for a metric with fewer than ten (10) students in the denominator for the most recent reporting year.

2025 CTE Audit

CTE Audit accountability rules, including all phase out requirements, are effective beginning with the outcomes of the 2026 report. The 2025 CTE Audit highlights how secondary and postsecondary CTE programs, at the agency level, fare against future accountability standards with the goal of aiding agencies with proactive program improvement efforts.

A high level overview of 2025 CTE Audit outcomes follow. Supplemental to this report are the 2025 secondary and postsecondary statewide CTE Audit data files which are located on the [Office of CTE Quality webpage](#). These Excel files may be used to query agency level program data and their respective audit outcomes. Business rules are additionally provided and offer detailed methodology used by the state to make audit determination. For questions on the business rules or other audit inquiries, please contact CTEAudit@fldoe.org.

SECONDARY



Secondary Definitions

12th Grader Concentrator Continuing Education or Employed Rate – the percentage of Concentrator Graduates found continuing their education in Florida or employed in Florida in the year following high school graduation. Continuing education is based upon enrollment into any Florida postsecondary institution in the summer, fall or winter/spring terms of the following reporting year. Employment is based upon employment in Florida in the four (4) fiscal quarters following the reporting year of graduation. CTE Concentrator Graduates are only included in this rate if found enrolled in the same school district for all years in a Florida public high school.

12th Grader Concentrator Graduation Rate – the percentage of 12th grader CTE Concentrators who graduated from high school with a standard high school diploma. CTE Concentrator status may have been achieved in any year during high school. 12th Grader Concentrators are only included in this rate if found enrolled in the same school district for all years in a Florida public high school.

12th Grader Concentrator Industry Certification Rate – the percentage of 12th Grader CTE Concentrators earning at least one (1) industry certification at any point during high school. The industry certification does not need to be directly related to their program of concentration. CTE Concentrator status may have been achieved in any year during high school. Concentrators are included in the denominator of this measure even if they did not test for at least one industry certification. Students are only included in this rate if they were enrolled in the same school district for all years in a Florida public high school.

CTE Concentrator or Concentrator – a secondary student who earned three (3) or more credits in a single career preparatory (CAR-PREP) or technology education (Tech-Ed) CTE program, or two (2) credits if the maximum number of credits in the program is less than three (3). The CTE Audit uses the Perkins IV definition.

Industry Certification – a certification on the [CAPE Industry Certification Funding List](#) adopted in Rule 6A-6.0576, F.A.C. and/or industry certifications on the [Perkins V Industry Recognized Credentials List](#).

Participants – headcount of CAR-PREP or Tech-Ed secondary program students who have earned at least one high school credit in a course associated with a secondary CTE program within a reporting year.

Secondary Program Types – for the purposes of the CTE Audit, eligible secondary credential types include CAR-PREP or Tech-Ed secondary CTE programs only.

Secondary CTE Audit Metrics and Targets

The CTE Audit Rule reviews secondary CTE programs based on two CTE Audit metrics.

Each metric has a primary target and an alternate target for which at least one must be met to affirm program quality. The primary target is based on the most recent reporting year, and the alternate target is based on the most recent three-reporting year average.

Metric Number	Metric Name	Primary Target	Alternate Target
1	12th Grader Concentrator Graduation Rate	At least 80% using the most recent reporting year data	At least 80% using the most recent three-reporting-year average
2	12th Grader Concentrator Industry Certification Rate	At least 33% using the most recent reporting year data	At least 33% using the most recent three-reporting-year average
	OR	OR	OR
	Secondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate	At least 80% using the most recent reporting year data	At least 80% using the most recent three-reporting-year average

2025 Secondary Statewide CTE Audit Findings

The 2025 CTE Audit assessed 3,047 CAR-PREP and Tech-Ed secondary CTE programs at the agency level that were in operation during reporting years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24. Data shows that 26 secondary CTE agency programs would be identified for phase out if accountability standards for the 2026 CTE Audit were in effect.

Secondary Metric Number	Secondary Metric Name	Statutory Metric Target	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Assessed	Number of Exempt Secondary CTE Agency Programs	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Not Meeting Metric Target	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Not Meeting Overall Metric
1	12th Grader Concentrator Graduation Rate	80%	3,047	2,119	925	3	3
2	12th Grader Concentrator Industry Certification Rate	33%	3,047	2,119	865	63	23
	OR						
	Secondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate	80%	3,047	2,183	619	245	

Three agency programs did not meet Metric 1, 12th Grader Concentrator Graduation Rate. Metric 2, 12th Grader Concentrator Industry Certification Rate or Secondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate, provides two targets by which the overall metric can be met. While 63 agency level secondary CTE programs did not meet the industry certification rate and 245 agency level secondary CTE programs did not meet the continuing education or employed rate, only 23 agency programs did not meet either target, which means that they did not meet the overall metric.

POSTSECONDARY



Postsecondary Definitions

In-Demand – an occupation or program which shows labor market demand based on the criteria outlined in the Master Credential List (MCL) and/or the criteria outlined in the Labor Market Alignment in the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA). The criteria for the MCL and annual lists can be accessed at <https://careersourceflorida.com/master-credentials-list/>. The criteria for the Perkins CLNA can be accessed at <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/perkins/clna.stml>.

Postsecondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate – the percentage of postsecondary CTE full program completers who are found continuing their education in Florida or employed in Florida in the year following program completion. The continuing education rate is based upon enrollment in any Florida postsecondary institution in the summer, fall and winter/spring terms of the following year. The Employed Rate is based upon the four (4) fiscal quarters following the reporting year of completion.

Postsecondary Program Types – for the purposes of the CTE Audit, eligible postsecondary program types include associate of applied science (A.A.S.), associate of science (A.S.), advanced technical certificates (ATC), applied technology diploma (ATD), career certificate (CAR) and college credit certificate (CCC) programs only.

Retention Rate – the percentage of students enrolled in a given reporting year who returned the next reporting year or who completed their program in the original reporting year. Students who transfer to another FCS institution or district postsecondary program or to another program, are still included in the numerator as retained.

Success Rate – the percentage of students leaving postsecondary education (FCS institution or district postsecondary) with any one of the following: degree, certificate, industry certification or terminal occupational completion point (OCP). A student is classified as leaving postsecondary education if they were enrolled in a given reporting year and were not found enrolled in any FCS institution or district postsecondary program in the following reporting year.

Postsecondary CTE Audit Metrics and Targets

The CTE Audit Rule reviews postsecondary programs based on three CTE Audit metrics.

Each metric has a primary target and an alternate target for which at least one must be met to affirm program quality. The primary target is based on the most recent reporting year, and the alternate target is based on the most recent three-reporting year average.

Postsecondary Metric Number	Postsecondary Metric	Primary Target	Alternate Target
1	Retention Rate or Success Rate	At least 50% using the most recent reporting year data	At least 50% using the most recent three-reporting-year average
2	Completers Continuing Education or Employed Rate	At least 70% using the most recent reporting year data	At least 70% using the most recent three-reporting-year average
3	In-Demand Occupation	Program meets demand criteria as defined in the most recent MCL	Evidence of Labor Market Alignment on the most recent CLNA

2025 Postsecondary Statewide CTE Audit Findings

The 2025 CTE Audit assessed 3,630 postsecondary CTE programs by schools that were in operation during reporting years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24. Data shows that 134 postsecondary CTE agency programs would be identified for phase out if accountability standards for the 2026 CTE Audit were in effect.

Postsecondary Metric Number	Postsecondary Metric Name	Statutory Metric Target	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs	Number of Exempt Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Not Meeting Metric Target	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Not Meeting Overall Metric
1	Retention Rate	50%	3,630	1,313	2,277	40	17
	OR						
	Success Rate	50%	3,630	1,805	1,124	701	
2	Postsecondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate	70%	3,630	2,234	1,309	87	87
3	In-Demand Occupation	MCL or CLNA	3,630	151	3,449	30	30

Metric one, Retention Rate or Success Rate, provides two targets by which the overall metric can be met. While 40 agency level postsecondary CTE programs did not meet the retention rate and 701 agency level postsecondary CTE programs did not meet the success rate, only 17 agency programs did not meet either target which means that they did not meet the overall metric. 87 agency programs did not meet Metric two, Postsecondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate, and 30 agency programs did not meet Metric three, In-Demand Occupation.

Conclusion

The 2025 CTE Audit shows that the vast majority of local secondary and postsecondary CTE programs eligible for accountability outcomes, in accordance [Rule 6A-10.0342, F.A.C.](#), meet all program quality criteria. The annual evaluation of CTE programs allows the state to assess and prioritize the alignment of high-quality workforce education program efforts that increase workforce readiness with the goal of making Florida’s workforce education the best in the nation by 2030. The 2025 CTE Audit results reflect the success of Florida state educational agencies toward this goal.

The following tables show the overall success rates of local CTE programs that were assessed and not exempt from accountability due to a qualifying exemption by each program quality metric.

Secondary

Secondary Metric Number	Secondary Metric Name	Statutory Metric Target	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Assessed	Number of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Percent of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Percent of Secondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Overall Metric
1	12th Grader Concentrator Graduation Rate	80%	928	925	99.67%	99.67%
2	12th Grader Concentrator Industry Certification Rate	33%	928	865	93.21%	97.67%
	OR					
	Secondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate	80%	864	619	71.64%	

Postsecondary

Postsecondary Metric Number	Postsecondary Metric Name	Statutory Metric Target	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Assessed	Number of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Percent of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Metric Target	Percent of Postsecondary CTE Agency Programs Meeting Overall Metric
1	Retention Rate	50%	2,317	2,277	98.27%	99.26%
	OR					
	Success Rate	50%	1,825	1,124	61.58%	
2	Postsecondary Continuing Education or Employed Rate	70%	1,396	1,309	93.76%	93.76%
3	In-Demand Occupation	MCL or CLNA	3,479	3,449	99.13%	99.13%

Per Rule 6A-10.0342, F.A.C., program quality consequences associated with the CTE Audit Rule are effective beginning with the 2026 CTE Audit. This report highlights how secondary and postsecondary CTE programs, at the agency level, would have fared against forthcoming accountability standards. In advance of this timeline, the Department is committed to providing technical assistance to local agencies regarding accountability implementation.