



## INDIANA COMMISSION *for* HIGHER EDUCATION

### CTE Newsletter August 2025

This update is provided by the Career and Technical Education team at the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (Commission). We welcome your support in encouraging anyone who would benefit from the information to join our email list. Individuals can sign up [here](#). Questions can be shared with [CTE@che.in.gov](mailto:CTE@che.in.gov).

### Updated NLPS Programming Resources

As schools and career centers kick off the 2025-2026 school year, the CTE team has updated resource materials to support instructors, counselors, and administrators in offering CTE programming. The documents listed below were recently finalized and are released annually.

The information contained in the below resources can also be found in the CTE [Data Explorer](#). If small updates or edits occur throughout the year, those will be noted first in the Data Explorer.

Updated resources available on our [Programs of Study webpage](#) include:

- NLPS Review Document
- 2025-2026 CTE Instructor Assignment Codes
- 2025-2026 CTE Dual Credit Crosswalk

### Industry Certification Reimbursement

The state will once again be distributing funding to high schools later this fall to reimburse the cost of industry certification exams students took during this most recent school year (2024-2025).

All certifications on the [Graduation Pathways Eligible Industry Certification List](#) can be reported and receive reimbursement. As a reminder, schools and career centers should enter into InTERS any eligible certification exams (passed or failed) completed by students during the 24-25 SY **by September 5, 2025**.

High schools or CTE districts can run a report in [InTERS](#) showing all certifications that were reported by their school or district for reimbursement and how much funding each high school is slated to receive. **At any point prior to the September 5 deadline, adjustments can be made if currently reported data is not accurate.** The report can be run at the student level with the reimbursement rates for eligible reported certifications. Instructions to run that report can be [found here](#).

The available line item for this year is \$1.9 million. The Commission's CTE team has reviewed reimbursement rates for industry certifications in consultation with CTE directors and other stakeholders. All reimbursement rates can be found on the [CTE Data Explorer](#) website.



Following the collection of this data, the funding will be distributed to high schools. Reimbursement goes to the home high school of the student. Please reach out to [JVance@che.in.gov](mailto:JVance@che.in.gov) with any data reporting questions.

### Work-Based Learning Resources

**WBL Menu of Experiences:** On August 1, IDOE released WBL guidance developed in collaboration with the Commission's CTE Team. The [WBL Menu of Experiences](#) outlines Indiana's updated definition of WBL and highlights the key elements that can be used to determine which student experiences qualify under this definition. The document serves as a practical tool for educators, counselors, and employers by offering descriptions of various types of WBL experiences available to students aligned to Indiana's new diploma requirements and readiness seals.

The menu also includes links to highlighted schools from around the state that currently have strong WBL programs and can be used as examples for schools looking to expand opportunities for students to participate in WBL experiences.

**WBL Reporting Guidance:** To complement the information within the WBL Menu of Experiences, updated guidance on reporting WBL experiences has been developed and can be [found here](#).

Secondary WBL hours are reported in Indiana's CTE data collection system, InTERS. Reporting information within InTERS allows students to receive credit for their WBL hours and schools to receive funding (where applicable). WBL hours and other information related to a WBL experience should be reported for both CTE students and non-CTE students.

The reporting guidance includes an overview of course reporting options, the information necessary to report a student's WBL experience in InTERS, and specific examples of reporting different student scenarios. Upcoming opportunities to receive additional information on WBL reporting are shared below:

- IACTE Fall Conference (discussed directly below)
- Fall data reporting trainings facilitated by the CTE team. A kickoff webinar will be held on Tuesday, September 2 and additional in-person training dates will be shared soon. Email [JVance@che.in.gov](mailto:JVance@che.in.gov) for details.
  - Fall Data Reporting Kickoff Webinar (September 2 @ 1 PM ET) – [Meeting Link](#)

### Indiana ACTE State Conference

The Indiana Association of Career and Technical Education (IACTE) State Conference will take place **September 11-13**. This annual event allows conference-goers to attend workshops around critical topics surrounding CTE, make connections with colleagues around the state, and network with organizations offering the latest collection of CTE products and services. Registration and more information are available at [this link](#).

**Pre-Conference Workshops (September 11):** The CTE Team will be facilitating two pre-conference workshops on Thursday, September 11. The workshops are:



- **Expanding Access to WBL** - This pre-conference workshop will cover important state policy updates, including the WBL definition elements and the Menu of WBL Experiences, and discuss strategies for improving the WBL experiences at your school. Time will be spent discussing the quality components of WBL, including the development of training plans and WBL reporting instructions to ensure students' experiences are captured correctly. Attendees will also be given information regarding how WBL applies to the new high school diploma readiness seals.
  - Suggested attendees: WBL Coordinators, counselors, and those who work closely with students participating in WBL experiences.
  - Access the workshop [agenda here](#).
- **Empowering Students through CTE** - This workshop is designed to help school personnel better understand how CTE can be implemented in their schools to empower students and get them started on a successful career path. Workshop attendees will see the vision for CTE in Indiana and discuss key strategies for communicating the power of CTE with students, families, and community stakeholders. Sessions will include time to discuss the nuts and bolts of CTE in Indiana, including policies around funding, the new Indiana diploma readiness seals, and credentials of value.
  - Suggested attendees: administrators, counselors, career coaches (especially those in new roles), and teachers.
  - Access the workshop [agenda here](#).

Additionally, there will be a third workshop facilitated by Indiana ACTE for new CTE instructors. New instructors in the Workplace Specialist 1 program are highly encouraged to attend these sessions.

- **Building a Strong Foundation for New and Newer Educators** – This workshop will feature three sessions, which educators will rotate through. Session topics include classroom management and student engagement, which will provide techniques for creating a productive learning environment, lesson planning, and curriculum mapping, which will guide participants through designing impactful lessons and planning for the year, and supporting all student populations.

Registration information for both the pre-conference workshops and the regular conference can be [found here](#).

### Credentials of Value

IDOE released a [memo](#) detailing the Credentials of Value (CoV) list for high schools in late May. The memo outlines how the credentials can be used to meet graduation requirements and earn readiness seals under the new Indiana diploma.

The memo includes two linked PDFs with the list of eligible credentials for the Enrollment Honors Plus Seal and both Employment seals. A complete list of the high school-applicable credentials, as



well as details on the methodology and data used to calculate final score values, is also linked in the memo.

Prior to the class of 2029, students earning an industry certification to fulfill the Postsecondary Readiness Competency requirement of Graduation Pathways will continue to utilize the [current Graduation Pathways list](#). Beginning with the class of 2029, the list of eligible credentials to meet this option within Graduation Pathways will be the same as the list of eligible credentials to fulfill the Credentials of Value component of the Employment Honors Seal. Students who do not earn a seal must still complete components 2 and 3 of Graduation Pathways and can use any of the currently available options for each component. Feedback on the scoring or eligibility of a credential on the Credentials of Value list for high schools can be done via this [Jotform](#). Contact [COV@che.in.gov](mailto:COV@che.in.gov) with additional questions.

### CTE Pathway Credentials

The CTE team has updated our previously released [CTE Program of Study Postsecondary Credential Alignment](#) spreadsheet to include the CoV score for credentials aligned to CTE Programs of Study. This document will be updated and released annually to aid counselors and career coaches in helping students to plan their graduation pathway.

### CTE Team Commission Presentation

At the July meeting of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, CTE staff presented on the Credentials of Value list and provided a sample CTE student experience with information about new diploma requirements, Credentials of Value, and work-based learning. The presentation can be [found here](#), or accessed via the meeting recording [here](#). Our team plans to release additional student profiles over the upcoming months to highlight how secondary CTE programs of study can help students explore career options, fulfill graduation requirements within the different diploma seals, and gain valuable skills and credentials prior to high school graduation.

### Update - Social and Community Services Program of Study

Ivy Tech Community College approved additional dual credit opportunities within the Social and Community Services CTE program of study last spring. The pathway will now have six available dual credit courses embedded within the secondary course sequence. All dual credits are directly aligned to Ivy Tech's Mental Health Direct Support Certificate and Technical Certificate. Updated dual credit information is reflected in the 25-26 NLPS Review Document. These updates include changes to assignment codes that broaden the educator licenses eligible to teach these pathway courses.

As shared in our [April newsletter](#), schools currently offering the Human Services pathway are encouraged to consider switching to the Social and Community Services pathway due to the aligned credential and opportunities to earn dual credit. Following further evaluation, **the Human Services pathway is being phased out with the 2025-2026 school year and will not be available for the 2026-2027 school year and beyond.** The Principles of Human Services course (7176) will remain available as it is shared with the Social and Community Services Pathway.



- Students who are completing the Principles of Human Services course in 25-26 can either switch to the Social and Community Services pathway or pursue another area of interest in future years.
- Students who have completed the Principles course and both concentrator courses at the end of the 2025-2026 school year will not have the Human Services Capstone available.
- **Students who complete a concentrator course in the Human Services pathway during the 25-26 school year (and have previously completed the Principles course) will have the opportunity to complete concentrator status** in the 26-27 school year if their school submits a waiver for a Special Topics course. Instructions to complete a waiver can be [found here](#).
  - Students could also complete concentrator status through online coursework this year or through dual enrollment prior to the beginning of the 26-27 school year.

Questions regarding the Social and Community Services program of study and the phase out of the Human Services program of study can be directed to [LOsos@che.in.gov](mailto:LOsos@che.in.gov).

### Instructor Request – Introductory Courses

The CTE Team is seeking feedback on course standards for multiple introductory CTE courses as we consider how these courses may better serve as an overview and introduction to all of the pathways in a given career cluster. This review may lead to some future course title adjustments (reflected below.)

The survey linked below is open to any individual who currently teaches, or has taught, in the past school year, one of the courses below. We anticipate releasing updated standards for the listed introductory courses for the 2026-2027 school year. Please forward the survey to current instructors who may be willing to assist. The deadline for submitting competency feedback is **Friday, September 26th, 2025**.

You can direct any questions about the survey or competency review to [CTE@che.in.gov](mailto:CTE@che.in.gov).

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| • <a href="#">Introduction to Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics</a>     | • <a href="#">Introduction to Health Science Careers</a>  |
| • <a href="#">Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources</a> | • <a href="#">Introduction to Computer Science and Digital Technology</a>   |
| • <a href="#">Introduction to Design Processes</a>                         | • <a href="#">Introduction to Business</a>  |
| • <a href="#">Introduction to Transportation</a>                           | • <a href="#">Introduction to Arts, Entertainment, &amp; Design</a> (Intro to Communication, Intro to Fashion & Textiles, Intro to Interior Design) |
| • <a href="#">Introduction to Public Service and Safety</a>                |   |
| • <a href="#">Introduction to Culinary Arts and Hospitality</a>            |   |



### Reminder - New Diploma Eligible Course List

As Indiana transitions to the new high school diploma, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) [released guidance](#) on eligible courses for the new diploma requirements. The document also notes courses that will undergo a standards review process in the upcoming year and may be added to the list of eligible courses when IDOE releases the course titles and descriptions document for the 2026-2027 school year next fall.

In addition, on Friday, May 30, IDOE released a new diploma [companion document](#) that provides information on courses that can be utilized to meet graduation requirements and earn seals under the new diploma.

