

Board Members

Chair
David Harison

Labor
Rick Bender
Janet Lewis
Beth Thew

Business
Julianne Hanner
Mike Hudson
Asbury Lockett

Government
Terry Bergeson
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Charlie Earl
State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Karen Lee
Employment Security Department

Target Populations
Tony Lee

Participating Official
Robin Arnold-Williams
State Department of Social and Health Services

Executive Director
Workforce Training and Education
Coordinating Board

Demand Forecast

Washington's economy is in transition, moving rapidly from "production driven" to "knowledge and information based." For our young people to compete successfully, they will need more advanced skills, skills beyond what our academic courses alone teach.

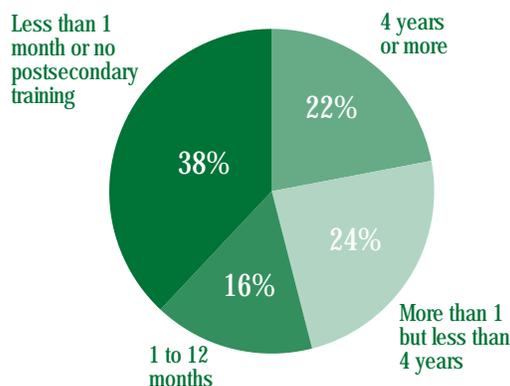
While every student should be encouraged to seek postsecondary education or training, each year in Washington State about a third of high school graduates go directly to work after they graduate. The only training option they have during K-12, the only place they can obtain the workplace and job-specific skills employers are looking for is in a secondary career and technical education (CTE) program.

Employment projections indicate there are jobs for those with only a high school diploma. Surveys show that employers hiring at the high school level have the most difficulty finding those with workplace and job-specific skills, and 88 percent of employers who hire CTE completers are somewhat or very satisfied with those skills.

Percentage of Employers Hiring at the High School Level Having Difficulty Finding Employees With Various Skills

Positive work habits and attitudes	80%
Job-specific skills	75%
Problem solving or critical thinking	72%
Communication skills	72%
Team work skills	72%
Ability to accept supervision	66%
Ability to adapt to changes in duties	64%
Writing skills	53%
Math skills	43%
Computer skills	24%
Reading skills	20%
English as second language skills	11%

Projected Job Openings by Training Level 2009-2012



WASHINGTON STATE
Workforce Training and Education
Coordinating Board

128 - 10th Avenue, S.W., P.O Box 43105
Olympia, Washington 98504-3105
Telephone: 360.753.5662
Fax: 360.586.5862
www.wtb.wa.gov
E-mail: wtech@wtb.wa.gov

Employers Satisfaction With Various Skills of New Employees Who Completed a Secondary CTE Program

	SATISFACTION	
	Very	Somewhat
Positive work habits and attitudes	41%	49%
Reading skills	40%	51%
Computer skills	40%	51%
Ability to adapt to changes in duties	39%	49%
Job-specific skills	38%	50%
Overall work quality	38%	56%
Overall productivity	35%	55%
Ability to accept supervision	35%	53%
Communication skills	35%	52%
Problem solving or critical thinking	28%	58%
Writing skills	24%	57%
Math skills	24%	62%
Team work skills	24%	60%

CTE, however, is not only for those students going straight to work. The year after graduation, about 50 percent of CTE completers in Washington State attend postsecondary education or training.

Whether they go to work or go on to postsecondary education, the earnings of CTE completers are higher: three years after leaving secondary school, those who have completed a CTE program are earning as much as \$1,664 more than a student who did not. A CTE completer also generates additional tax revenue that exceed the cost of the program to the taxpayer.

BENEFIT/COST	Lifetime Estimate	
	STUDENT	PUBLIC
Earnings	+\$38,041	
Fringe Benefits	+\$7,608	
Taxes	-\$6,562	+\$6,562
Program Costs		-\$924

secondary
CAREER &
TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

works

supply • demand • results

secondary

CAREER &
TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

supply • demand • results

works