

# **Connect High School to Career and College**

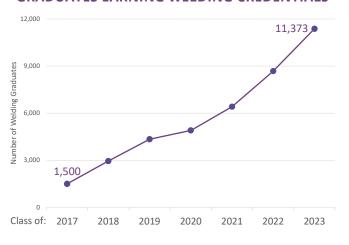
## **Supporting Career Readiness**

Preparing students for careers beyond high school is crucial for both their financial future and the state's continued economic growth. With most jobs now requiring specialized training or post-secondary education, Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are key in providing students with the skills, certifications, and practical experience needed to succeed in high-demand fields.

# **CTE Growth Example: Welding**

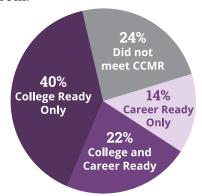
Multiple Texas policy changes have helped schools launch and expand their CTE pathways, with far more students now graduating with certifications like welding than just a few years ago.

#### **GRADUATES EARNING WELDING CREDENTIALS<sup>18</sup>**



### Career and College Ready

Career readiness is important. College readiness is also important. Our goal is to help students achieve both.



PERCENT OF GRADUATES DEMONSTRATING COLLEGE OR CAREER READINESS Class of 2023<sup>19</sup>

- Steps to Launch a New CTE Pathway
- 1 Establish partnerships with higher education & industry
- 2 Identify and purchase equipment and supplies needed
- 3 Identify and purchase classroom instructional materials
- Select, hire, and train qualified instructors
- 5 Generate student interest

### Spotlight: Welding in Taylor ISD

"The integration of industry-based certifications and dual credit courses has opened up valuable opportunities for students after graduation. Beyond that, it has inspired, equipped, and empowered them, giving their education a deeper sense of purpose- which is our mission at Taylor ISD. Our Welding Program has not only boosted their success in other subjects but also ignited a passion for learning that extends throughout their academic journey."

- Scott Bishop, CATE Welding Teacher

