

Vision

The New York City Department of Education envisions...

...Students advancing from the middle grades through high school and into postsecondary opportunities aware of career pathways and equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence derived from rigorous academics and work based learning experiences...

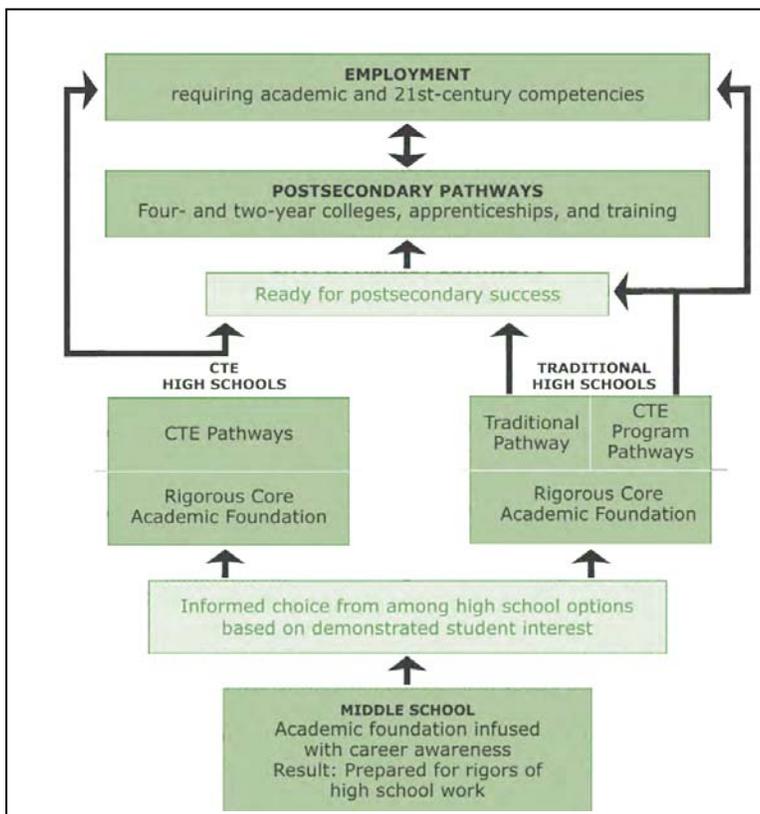
The vision of the New York City Department of Education for Career and Technical Education is about student success. *For students*, their involvement with CTE will begin in middle school by building foundational academic skills, making school relevant, and learning about career paths and secondary school options.

Some students will be ready to commit to a pathway as early as 8th grade, while others wait until later. Regardless, 9th and 10th grade students will explore different career and postsecondary options while attaining high levels of achievement. The focus on strong academic preparation will continue as students commit to a specific career pathway and engage in work-based learning. No pathway will limit a student's ability to pursue postsecondary education, nor choice of career. High quality CTE programs directly engage students to meet Regents graduation standards (see graphic on right).

Our vision aims to design relevant and rigorous school experiences for students at all levels of achievement and interest – from the academic superstar to those who otherwise might drop out.

Goals

- 1. Meet 21st Century Standards.** Prepare NYC students to meet academic and industry-based standards and competencies through rigorous and relevant coursework, supported by strong public-private partnerships.
- 2. Expand Paths to Graduation.** Create and support career pathways that integrate coursework, work-based learning experiences and hands-on experiences so that students develop competencies, skills and attitudes for success beyond high school in the workforce.
- 3. Engage and Empower Industry Leadership.** Reach beyond the educational sphere and develop a coherent structure for engaging, organizing and accounting for industry support to ensure the continued relevancy of CTE programs, and build pipelines of skilled workers into sector labor markets.
- 4. Prepare Graduates for Post-Secondary Success.** Prepare more NYC students for post-secondary and post-scholastic work and training options, including a particular emphasis on integration and articulation with post-secondary degree options.
- 5. Increase Opportunity and Access.** Equip students and families to make informed choices about education and work and ensure that all students have access to desirable options.



Objectives

Our strategic plan is organized around six major objectives supported by detailed implementation plans (summarized in Attachment 1). With our partners at the community, school and state levels we will:

Deliver Rigorous Academic and Technical Content

- We will ensure that programs place primary emphasis on *improving academic and technical skills*, and integrating academic and technical content
- We will develop Programs of Study that reflect *all aspects of an industry*, and ensure that students are not restricted in their postsecondary and career pursuits
- We will emphasize application of *technology in CTE* programs regardless of industry area to ensure that emerging technologies are included across programs.

Reflect Community Partners' Needs and Local Economic Trends

- We will expand and improve the participation of *local advisory groups and boards*, composed of business, community, higher education and other leaders, to support the development and implementation of high quality CTE programs
- We will continually monitor *labor market needs* in the local, regional and global economy to inform the development of relevant content for all students.

Build Integrated System from Middle School to College and Career

- We will *align CTE programs to postsecondary education opportunities* through enhanced partnership with all segments of the New York higher education community
- We will *link CTE programs to postsecondary and career path counseling* by investing in career awareness and exploration opportunities beginning in middle school.

Include All Students

- We will strive to *ensure equity* in CTE offerings by providing equal access irrespective of gender, race, ethnicity, economic or educational needs.

Develop the Best Teachers and Personnel

- We will invest in innovative and measurable *professional development* for teachers, administrators and other staff to ensure all personnel are well prepared to provide students the supports needed to achieve academic success.

Assure Quality and Continuous Improvement

- We will employ a rigorous methodology for assessing and improving the *quality of CTE programs*, the qualifications of teachers, linkages to industry, academic content, and other measures of quality
- We will redouble efforts to use *data to improve CTE* by focusing on multiple measures of student achievement and indicators of success
- We will require the *evaluation* of CTE programs to identify trends in student achievement, as well as identify high performing programs and those in need of improvement.