

HR Brief

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Baldwin Krystyn Sherman Partners

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CTE Programs Earn \$1.2 Billion in Federal Funding

Career and technical education (CTE) programs earned a huge win in July when President Donald Trump re-enabled a major source of their funding.

The bill President Trump [signed](#) reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act—last authorized in 2006—and amends the legislation to make its funds more accessible.

Noteworthy Program Highlights

- Grants roughly \$1.2 billion in federal funding toward state and local CTE programs through fiscal year 2024
- Limits the secretary of education's authority in allocating funds

- Increases transparency and accountability to drive curriculum effectiveness
- Simplifies the application process, making acquiring and using federal funds easier

Why Focus on CTE Programs?

CTE programs emphasize trades and skills rather than abstract degrees. For instance, a CTE program might prepare someone to become an electrician or a health care specialist.

Given their clear path to employment, many students take CTE classes in high school and after graduation to earn a certification.

Proponents argue CTE initiatives address modern workforce demands by getting people into in-demand jobs quickly and efficiently.

Optimistic Outlook

Legislators believe stimulating these programs will help the United States better prepare its workforce for shifting job markets, especially in areas that have seen a steady decline in recent decades.

Ideally, addressing this issue now will save the United States from even tighter labor markets in the near future.

DID YOU KNOW?

Recently, two potentially transformative health bills ([1](#), [2](#)) affecting health savings accounts (HSAs) passed through the House of Representatives.

These bills could change HSA spending rules and alter other aspects as well.

Note, these bills are not law and Senate approval may be a long shot. Stay tuned for any notable developments.

LinkedIn Voice Messaging: What You Need to Know

The social recruiting and marketing platform LinkedIn recently announced a new voice messaging feature. It allows users to record and send brief audio clips instead of typing out messages.

This feature can help reduce the time it takes to reach out to potential recruits and adds a personal touch from your business. That personal experience could make the difference for talented applicants who are used to getting a canned response.

Maximizing This Feature

Using this feature can combat the perception that your company doesn't care about applicants on a personal level. With this in mind, consider using voice replies to show applicants you care.

If a person thinks you don't care about their application, why should they want to work for you?

