# ANNUAL REPORT





#### **Greetings ACTE members,**

As the president of ACTE's board of directors, I'm honored to present our Association's 2024 Annual Report. This past year has been one of progress, resilience, and commitment to advancing high-quality career and technical education (CTE) across the nation.

Our CTE community has faced its fair share of challenges, from budget constraints to workforce shortages. Yet, in the face of adversity, I'm inspired by the ingenuity, passion, and sheer

determination of our members to ensure that every learner has access to transformative CTE experiences. This annual report is a testament to your unwavering dedication.

Throughout 2024, ACTE has been at the forefront of critical policy discussions, working tirelessly to secure increased Perkins funding and advocate for legislation that strengthens the CTE ecosystem. Our partnerships with congressional leaders and the Biden Administration have amplified the voices of CTE practitioners and led to meaningful progress. While the appropriations process remains contentious, I'm heartened by the bipartisan support for CTE and the opportunity to build upon these efforts in the coming year.

Beyond the policy realm, ACTE has continued to deliver high-quality professional development, cutting-edge research and invaluable resources to support our members. The launch of our new website, the growth of our social media presence, and the expansion of our CTE Learn platform have enhanced our ability to connect with the CTE community and empower educators at all levels.

I'm particularly proud of the strides we've made in strengthening ACTE's membership and state chapter network. The unifications of Alabama and Tennessee have further solidified our position as the premier organization representing CTE professionals nationwide. Our State Chapter Module and Chapter Payment Portal have streamlined membership processes and facilitated greater engagement.

Moreover, the continued success of our flagship events, such as CareerTech VISION, the National Policy Seminar, and the Work-Based Learning Conference, underscores the hunger for collaboration, innovation, and inspiration within our community. The feedback we've received from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to building upon these experiences in the years ahead.

As we look to the future, I'm confident that ACTE is well-positioned to navigate the evolving landscape of CTE. I know that we will continue to champion the transformative power of CTE for learners of all backgrounds. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our students, our communities, and the future of our workforce. I'm honored to serve alongside you as we embark on the next chapter of ACTE's journey.

Sincerely,

Carrie Wien
Carrie Giles

ACTE Board President



# FEDERAL POLICY ACTIVITY

After Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 appropriations bills were finally passed in late March 2024, providing a slight increase to Perkins funding, our focus shifted to the FY 2025 bills. Also in March, President Biden released his FY 2025 budget request. In somewhat disappointing news, the Administration only called for an increase of \$40 million to the Perkins Basic State Grant program, which is well short of what ACTE had requested.

Similar to last year, the House of Representatives had drafted appropriations bills that included many cuts to education programs. In June, the House Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee introduced their bill that proposed cutting funding levels for all the agencies in its jurisdiction by nearly 11%.

While Perkins was provided with a \$10 million increase, many programs were significantly cut or eliminated entirely, including many programs that benefit CTE programs and students. ACTE worked closely with Congress throughout this process to respond to these potential cuts and advocate not only for more Perkins funding but also for sustained funding levels across the education and workforce system. We sent letters, activated members, held meetings, made press statements and participated in coalition activities.

When the Senate Committee on Appropriations considered their bill in late July, the news was much better both for CTE and other programs across the Departments of Education and Labor. The Senate bill contained an additional \$35 million for the Perkins Basic State Grant, while also voiding the steep cuts made in the House bill. However, given these very disparate approaches to funding, and numerous other political issues, the appropriations process remains contentious and not much progress has been made.

Congress passed a continuing resolution in September to keep the federal government open through Dec. 20. When Congress returns for the lame duck session after the election, government funding will have to be extended again or finalized.

Very little other legislation has moved forward. However, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce introduced a bipartisan bill that would reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which has not been updated since 2014. The bill, A Stronger Workforce for America Act, moved to the floor and passed out of the House in April.

The Senate is currently negotiating their own bill and released a discussion draft in July. ACTE submitted extensive feedback on the draft, and lawmakers are still trying to negotiate a final package. The hope of lawmakers is that both chambers can come together on a compromise bill during the lame duck session.

There have been discussions around a possible Senate markup for workforce-centric legislation, including apprenticeship bills and legislation addressing short-term Pell grants. However, at the time of this report, no markup has been scheduled. Short-term Pell grants remain one of our top legislative priorities, and interest among policymakers from both parties remains strong. ACTE is urging congressional leaders to move on legislation that would allow Pell grants for short-term programs.

Further, lawmakers are continuing to negotiate a reauthorization of the Farm Bill. Congress passed an extension in December 2023, and ACTE has been focused on ensuring CTE programs are included as is appropriate.

We continued to foster close relationships with the House and Senate CTE Caucuses. This year, both caucuses prioritized bipartisanship, and the co-chairs introduced several pieces of legislation that ACTE was proud to endorse. Recently, the House CTE Caucus hosted a briefing that highlighted the potential of virtual reality for training and career exploration programs.

Other key activities included the annual introduction of congressional resolutions celebrating CTE Month®, "Dear Colleague" letters on appropriations, and briefings and events on Capitol Hill. The CTE Month resolutions once again enjoyed broad bipartisan support and passed the Senate by unanimous consent!

Work with the Biden Administration has also been key this year, as the slow movement of bills through Congress has placed more focus on regulatory and other executive branch policy efforts. We submitted extensive comments on proposed apprenticeship rules from the Department of Labor and have weighed in on potential distance learning rules changes as well. Most importantly, we have been closely following, weighing in on, and educating members and partners on proposed changes to the Perkins state plan, which were still pending at the time of this report.

ACTE has worked with several members of Congress on legislation they introduced: most recently a bill by Rep. Nick Langworthy (R-NY) that would expand the Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention grant program, making area CTE centers eligible for mental health and substance use disorder services grants.

# **MEMBERSHIP**

Thanks to our thriving partnerships, ACTE has grown to serve more than 28,000 members. We welcomed 5,700 new members in 2024! We are especially excited to announce new unifications — with Alabama and Tennessee — increasing our unified state associations, chapters and division affiliates to 45.

The State Chapter Module, a portal that gives state leaders the ability to access membership information, anytime and anywhere, continues to evolve with the addition of the Chapter Payment Portal for unified states to process memberships. This enhancement allows state leaders to seamlessly join or renew their members using an ACH payment option. ACTE continues to provide support to state leaders via drop-in and focused training sessions.

The communications staff was excited to launch ACTE's new website this year, which provides users with an improved navigation structure.

This, in turn, provides the CTE community with highly informative content that is rendered in a way that is easy to find, use and read.

Additional member and communications highlights include:

- Working in concert with the Horatio Alger Association Career and Technical Scholarship Program to market and secure 500 scholarships for postsecondary CTE students that total more than \$1.25 million.
- Awarding 28 states with ACTE's Quality Association Standards recognition, which sets benchmarks for determining a quality association.
- Hosting regular State Leaders Series Zoom meetings.
- Featuring and promoting specific membership benefits throughout the year, including access to ACTE's divisions, the member

insurance program, and CTE Learn courses and discounts.

- Promoting conference and leadership and award program opportunities, and public policy and advocacy resources via robust communications channels, including ACTE News, *Techniques*, SmartBrief publications, social media, the ad retargeting platform, external direct mail lists, print and digital ads, email marketing, monthly membership reports, quarterly division and region newsletters, presentations, and more.
- Designing icons for the new ACTE affinity groups and communities of practice.
- Hosting our annual student video challenge in partnership with NASA HUNCH.





# **MEDIA**

ACTE works hard to increase awareness and promote the benefits of high-quality CTE programs to the public, education community and policymakers. In 2024, we worked with social media and traditional media outlets to share work done in support of CTE. Examples have included press releases, feature articles, and contributed quotes on CTE policy, the appropriations process, professional and community development, ACTE award winners, and our membership's advocacy.

As the year has progressed, so has the conversation on Gen Z's growing interest in CTE. As media coverage follows these shifts in attitudes, along with recent federal pushes to strengthen the skilled workforce, we worked to connect high-profile news organizations to members of the ACTE network and community for insights.

This year, ACTE staff were quoted in *K-12 Dive, CNN, Newsweek, Inside Higher Ed* and *Education Week*, among others. Additionally, ACTE was quoted for a story that was distributed via CNN Newsource to more than 20 local news outlets throughout the country. The most successful of these, published in a Phoenix, Arizona, paper, reached more than 2.5 million unique viewers.

ACTE was also asked to provide public endorsements for critical pieces of legislation, collaborating with congressional offices to promote CTE at the federal level. For example, Executive Director LeAnn Curry was quoted in statements to promote mental health care access for CTE students, improving workforce development programs at community colleges, and the House and Senate CTE Month resolutions.













# **PUBLICATIONS**



ACTE continues to lead in developing evidence-based resources to support the CTE field in delivering high-quality CTE. In late 2023 through spring 2024, ACTE co-published with Advance CTE a series of <u>briefs</u> addressing strategies for supporting each of the Perkins V special populations and other underserved learner groups. These publications were paired with a set of companion <u>webinars</u>. These events have been very popular, attracting 150–300 attendees per webinar.



ACTE published <u>Staffing</u> <u>Outside the Box: Strategies</u> <u>for Addressing CTE Teacher Shortages</u>, sponsored by eDynamic Learning. This report provides examples for addressing CTE teacher shortages in the short- and medium-term through such

methods as bringing industry experts into the classroom, sharing faculty across subject areas and institutions, and providing virtual learning opportunities.



In partnership with Advance CTE, ACTE also developed State and Local Strategies for Diversifying the CTE Educator Workforce, which presents common challenges to diversifying the CTE educator workforce, identifies promising practices

to overcome these challenges, and provides actionable strategies and recommendations for local and state leaders. This report is accompanied by a <u>database</u> of organizations that CTE leaders can connect with to recruit educators from underrepresented populations.



ACTE continued to publish its updated <u>Sector Sheets</u>, which describe CTE's role in growing the qualified workforce in vital industry sectors. We also made annual updates to our <u>What is CTE?</u> and <u>CTE Works!</u> fact sheets and the <u>State Fact Sheets</u> that highlight the CTE system in each state.



The <u>CTE Policy Watch</u> blog remains an important source for advocates on the latest news on federal CTE and education policy as well as CTE data and research. The blog is on track to publish approximately 150 posts in 2024, averaging around 10,000 page views a month.



Techniques: Connecting Education and Careers, ACTE's flagship publication, offers invaluable insights and resources for educators and industry leaders. In 2024, Techniques continued to highlight the latest trends in CTE through feature articles, interviews, case studies and crossword puzzles. Covering a wide range of topics — from innovative teaching practices to workforce development — the magazine fosters a deeper connection between education and industry, helping readers stay informed and prepared to support students on their paths to success.



# RESEARCH

In 2024, the <u>ACTE Quality CTE Program of Study Framework</u>® received trademark recognition from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. ACTE also finalized a series of courses to help practitioners understand and implement each high-quality CTE element, available on <u>CTE Learn</u>.

ACTE continued in their role as a lead among the <u>CTE Research Network</u> (CTERN), which launched its version 2.0 in 2024. This new iteration will continue to prioritize rigorous CTE research. ACTE has developed an <u>infographic</u> describing findings from CTERN research.

In addition, ACTE co-published with Advance CTE the 11th annual state policy paper, <u>State Policies Impacting CTE: 2023 Year in Review</u> and accompanying state policy tracker, and they hosted a corresponding webinar. ACTE continued its collaboration with myOptions Encourage to survey CTE students and educators nationwide

about post-high school plans, perceptions of CTE, and CTE program elements.

ACTE remains a leader in supporting states and local providers to implement high-quality CTE programs aligned with Perkins V legislation.

In 2024, ACTE assisted lowa with Perkins state planning and provided technical assistance to Nevada, Oregon, and lowa through our contract with Advance CTE. In addition, ACTE provided subject matter expertise to the U.S. Department of Education CTE CHIPS Challenge, to the implementation of Perkins Innovation and Modernization grants, and to a grant supporting the water utility workforce.



# SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the past year, ACTE has continued to sustain the organization's visibility and engagement across multiple platforms. Audience engagement continues to grow during CTE Month; educators share success stories, raise awareness for CTE and join in community online each February. Resources, like publications, webinars, and information on professional development events, are shared throughout the year to provide high-quality content.

Social media has played an important role in driving awareness, building community and supporting ACTE's overall mission. We are excited to continue leveraging these platforms to foster deeper connections and promote our mission and initiatives.







#### **Facebook**

Total Followers: 11,111

Engagements: 11,889

Clicks: 5,920

Organic Impressions: 281,840

## Instagram

Total Followers: 1,876

Likes: 1,747

Comments: 263

Impressions: 37,724

#### X

Total Followers: 20,141

Total Clicks: 2,525

Retweets: 755

Impressions: 172,048

### LinkedIn

Total Followers: 9,778

Impressions: 211,581

Clicks: 9,054

Engagements: 15,575





# **EVENTS**

#### ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2024

ACTE's CareerTech VISION is the largest annual conference in the nation for career and technical education professionals, business leaders and industry professionals. In 2024, VISION offered a premier professional learning experience in San Antonio, Texas. This year's event featured:

- · Opportunities to gather with your peers and grow professionally
- Engaging keynote speakers Heather E. McGowan and Steve Gilliland
- More than 300 sessions covering high-quality secondary and postsecondary CTE
- Hundreds of exhibits and workshops featuring innovative solution providers in the CareerTech Expo
- The Career Pavilion, where industry representatives shared information on highdemand careers, starting salaries for specific occupations and suggested supporting curricula
- Several pre-conference workshops on focused CTE issues and tours showcasing model CTE programs and high-demand career pathways
- The ACTE Awards Gala, honoring the accomplishments of educators, programs and organizations

 Several companion events: The CTE Research and Professional Development Conference: International Vocational Education and Training Association 40th Anniversary North America Regional Conference: Law and Public Safety Education Network National Conference; National Association of Agricultural Educators Convention

Join us Dec. 10-13 in Nashville, Tennessee, for VISION 2025.

#### **National Policy Seminar 2024**

ACTE's National Policy Seminar (NPS) 2024 offered opportunities to engage on CTE policy priorities, advocacy and messaging. NPS also featured programming on Capitol Hill, meetings with legislators, and a special evening event showcasing career and technical student organizations. On the last day of the event, the CTE Research Network and ACTE hosted national CTE leaders, state and district CTE administrators, officials from the U.S. Department of Education, and others to discuss the latest findings on the impact of CTE, reactions from the field, and areas where research is still needed. Join us March 16-19 in Arlington, Virginia, for NPS 2025.

#### Work-Based Learning Conference 2024

ACTE's Work-Based Learning (WBL) Conference 2024 took attendees to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This annual event offers focused professional

development for WBL professionals in secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and institutions. Attendees gained access to a wealth of WBL resources and learned how to build strong education and workforce connections and experiences. Join us April 2-4 in Bellevue (on Seattle's Eastside), Washington, for the WBL Conference 2025.

#### Best Practices & Innovations in CTE Conference 2024

The Best Practices and Innovations in CTE Conference, with content tailored for CTE administrators, was co-hosted by ACTE and the National Council of Local Administrators in Portland, Oregon. Participants attended a variety of specialized workshops, breakout sessions and school tours. Topics included teacher recruitment and retention, leveraging partnerships to grow student career development opportunities, and much more. Join us Sept. 24-26 in St. Louis, Missouri, for Best Practices 2025.

#### Postsecondary CTE Summit 2024

For its third year running, ACTE was pleased to offer a conference focused entirely on postsecondary CTE topics. The Postsecondary CTE Summit 2024 took place in Chicago, Illinois. This information-packed program attracted professionals from across the nation and featured topics like apprenticeship models, faculty recruitment and retention, securing business partnerships, and more. Details about next year's event will be shared as they become available.

#### SUPPORTING OUR ESTEEMED REGION & STATE PARTNERS IN CTE

ACTE supports our regions and key partners by participating in and providing support for the Region events. Additionally, ACTE is honored to participate in state and partner events to learn about the most pressing issues that CTE educators face and to share legislative updates and the latest information about professional development and member benefits. Included is a sampling of where we went in 2024.

- · 2024 Career & Technical Association of **Texas Summer Conference 2024**
- · 2024 Indiana ACTE State Conference
- · 2024 Ohio CTE Innovation and Impact **Conference**
- · Advance CTE 2024 Fall Meeting
- · Alabama ACTE Summer Conference
- · Alaska ACTE Professional Development Conference
- Arkansas CTF Summer Conference 2024
- · American Association of Community **Colleges Workforce Development Institute**
- · Arizona CTE Summer Conference
- · Arkansas ACTE Summer Conference
- · Careers Technical Educators of Idaho **Summer Conference 2024**
- · Colorado ACTE CareerTech Summit
- · Coalition on Adult Basic Education 2024 National Conference

- · DECA's International Career **Development Conference**
- · Educating for Careers Conference
- · Family, Career and Community Leaders of America National Leadership Conference
- · Florida ACTE Conference
- · Georgia ACTE 2024 Summer Conference
- · Illinois ACTE Annual Conference
- Iowa ACTF Rest Practices Conference
- · Institute for CTE Educators
- · International Builders' Show
- · Kansas ACTE Summer Conference 2024
- · Kentucky CTE Summer Program
- · Maine CTE Statewide Conference
- Massachusetts Association of **Vocational Administrators Connecting** for Success Conference

- · Maryland Career and Technical **Administrators Annual Professional Development Conference**
- · Michigan Career Education Conference
- · Minnesota State 2024 CTE Summit
- · Mississippi ACTE Summer Conference 2024
- · Missouri ACTE Summer Conference 2024
- Montana ACTE Conference 2024
- · Meetings of the National Coordinating Council — Career and Technical Student **Organizations**
- · Nebraska ACTE Conference 2024
- · Nevada ACTE 2024 Conference
- · North Dakota ACTE Conference 2024
- · North Carolina ACTE Summer Conference
- · Oklahoma Summit

- · Oregon ACTE Conference 2024
- · Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Educators Association **Education and Workforce Development Symposium**
- · SkillsUSA National Leadership and **Skills Conference**
- · South Dakota ACTE Summer Conference
- · South Carolina Education and Business Summit
- · Texas Industrial Vocational Association **2024 Summer Professional Development Conferences**
- Utah ACTE Conference 2024
- · Virginia ACTE Professional Development and Leadership Seminar 2024
- · Washington ACTE Summer Conference
- Wyoming ACTE Conference 2024

# **AWARDS**

#### **Excellence**



**Teacher of the Year**Aris Pangilinan – Washington, District of Columbia



Administrator of the Year Rod Belnap – Hooper, Utah



**Teacher Educator of the Year** Laura Van Waardhuizen – Ames, Iowa



Postsecondary Professional of the Year Ashlee Spannagel – West Burlington, Iowa



**New Teacher of the Year** Mindy Lyle – Mena, Arkansas



**Counseling and Career Development Professional Award** Kristina Guy – Surprise, Arizona



Lifetime Achievement Award Jan Jardine – Provo, Utah



**Carl Perkins Community Service Award**Robby Branscum – Stillwater, Oklahoma

#### **Impact**



**Business-Education Partnership Awards** ACE Electric, Inc.



Don Wood Foundation



**Champion for CTE**Jerry Farley – Akron, Ohio





# CTE STUDENTS STAND OUT

In October 2024, ACTE was proud to announce the team of Ayush Ghosh and James Li from Centennial High School in Ellicott City, Maryland. as the winners in our ninth annual student trophy design contest. They are taught by Nancy Smith. The contest is sponsored by ACTE and Stratasys, Ltd., a manufacturer of 3D printers and production systems.

The students will receive a scholarship, and their school will receive a free oneyear lease of a 3D printer, courtesy of Stratasys, Ltd. Ghosh and Li, both seniors at Centennial High School, share a strong passion for STEM and aspire to pursue careers in the field.



# **LEADERSHIP**

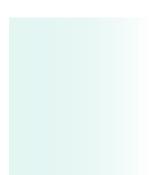


The ACTE National Leadership Fellowship Program is a yearlong leadership opportunity CTE professionals and supports both experienced educators as well as new professionals. This program provides participants with the leadership, professional and policy skills they need to grow as a CTE and ACTE advocate! Each of ACTE's five regions is represented in the program, as well as some divisions. Doug Major and Dawn Lindsley were the program coordinators for this fellowship year.





The NextLevel Postsecondary CTE Leadership Program is a nationally recognized leadership program that is engaging, individualized and memorable. Fellows learn how to elevate their interpersonal skills and their capacity to communicate, collaborate, network, solve problems, and use time and resources effectively as they develop institutional improvement plans. ACTE hosted 19 fellows in 2024, and we look forward to announcing the seventh cohort in spring 2025.















































The <u>IAED Mentorship Program</u> was created to provide mentors for educators interested in inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED). And to encourage ACTE members interested in IAED to pursue leadership roles in ACTE. The program, which is sponsored by IMAGO, encourages mentees and mentors to work and learn together to cultivate conversation and relationships. ACTE is grateful to IMAGO for their support in the program. And we would also like to thank the members of the IAED Advisory Group for their leadership in the ongoing evolution of this program.

#### **Mentors**















#### Mentees







































# STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

ACTE has continued to strengthen and expand its network of strategic partners, reinforcing our mission to support CTE through collaboration with industry leaders, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and important content and product companies active within the CTE space. These partnerships have helped drive innovative projects, increase professional development opportunities, and enhance resources available to CTE professionals nationwide.

Corporate membership is the primary entry point for companies and organizations desiring to develop a formal partnership with ACTE, and these numbers have continued to grow. Sponsors supported division activities at VISION and throughout the year. Others contributed resources and sponsored initiatives like the Excellence Awards program and our CTE for All work, which is supported by IMAGO.

ACTE reviewed and updated the benefits program for our national affiliate organization membership (NAOM) class. NAOM provides not-for-profit organizations an opportunity to foster the improvement and expansion of CTE through alignment with ACTE. NAOM

numbers held steady and signaled strength and collaboration within the CTE community.

Collaboration with our nonprofit partners continued to serve a pivotal role in ACTE's strategic growth. The ECMC Foundation continued in their support of the NextLevel Postsecondary CTE Leadership Program and expanded their investment in the Postsecondary CTE Summit. Further, a grant from the National Science Foundation Advanced Technical Education was awarded to support awareness and replication of the innovative CTE program for data center operations technicians at Northern Virginia Community College. And a partnership with the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation is supporting an expansion of our CTE for All work as well as real-time captioning and sign language interpretation at VISION.

Our ongoing partnership with MaxKnowledge led to an expanded number of courses available to members via CTE Learn. Four new states joined the alliance with their own state specific portals. New courses launched in 2024 included the full series on elements in the *Quality CTE Program of Study Framework* and others focused on business partnerships,

successful advisory committee administration, and cutting-edge instructional practices.

ACTE's highest partner level, our "Champions," included two outstanding organizations that have helped develop new resources for members. Xello updated a career development toolkit in collaboration with the Counseling and Career Development Division. And eDynamic Learning developed a new publication titled, Staffing Outside the Box: Strategic for Addressing CTE Teacher Shortages. Pearson moved up to the "Patron" level and has continued their support of updates to ACTE's Sector Sheets. We value these special partners and their contributions.

For the second consecutive year, ACTE conducted an annual partnership survey with the stated goal of increasing partner and sponsor satisfaction. The survey results showed that respondents are quite satisfied with ACTE's partnership support and services. We are hopeful that, as we continue to maintain and improve satisfaction, the number of ACTE partners will continue to increase.

#### NATIONAL AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION MEMBERS



#### **CORPORATE MEMBERS**





#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Board of Directors Association for Career and Technical Education Alexandria, Virginia

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Association for Career and Technical Education (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Association for Career and Technical Education as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Association for Career and Technical Education and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Association for Career and Technical Education's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

# Independent Auditors' Report Page 2

#### **Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Association for Career and Technical Education's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Association for Career and Technical Education's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audits.

# Independent Auditors' Report Page 3

#### **Report on Supplementary Information**

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedules of net assets without donor restrictions, board designated - regions and divisions and the schedules of net assets with donor restrictions, shown on pages 21-24, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Deleon & Stang, CPAs and Advisors Frederick, Maryland September 22, 2024

# Statements of Financial Position June 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023		
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,188	\$ 335,306		
Restricted cash	11,551	12,571		
Investments in marketable securities	10,023,861	8,730,079		
Accounts receivable	137,101	160,358		
Inventory	27,429	20,656		
Prepaid expenses and other assets	385,042	415,584		
Finance lease - right of use assets	23,890	33,021		
Property and equipment,				
net of accumulated depreciation	1,745,326	1,708,176		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 12,373,388	\$ 11,415,751		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASS	SETS			
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 530,286	\$ 582,778		
Deferred revenue	2,297,807	2,053,472		
Finance lease liabilities	24,104	32,824		
Rental deposits	2,750	2,750		
Total liabilities	2,854,947	2,671,824		
Net Assets:				
Without donor restrictions	4,100,465	3,697,449		
Without donor restrictions, Board-Designated				
Regions and Divisions	769,862	748,968		
Without donor restrictions, Board-Designated				
Capital Improvements/Reserves	4,458,528	4,098,930		
Total net assets without donor restrictions	9,328,855	8,545,347		
Net assets with donor restrictions	189,586	198,580		
Total net assets	9,518,441	8,743,927		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 12,373,388	\$ 11,415,751		

#### ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION **Statements of Activities**

For the Years Ended June 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024					2023						
	Wit	Without Donor		With Donor				Without Donor		With Donor		
	Re	strictions	Res	strictions		Total	Re	estrictions	Res	strictions		Total
Revenue and Support:												
Membership dues	\$	2,076,456	\$	-	\$	2,076,456	\$	1,897,558	\$	-	\$	1,897,558
Contributions		868,410		1,332		869,742		438,517		39,690		478,207
Sponsorship		576,479		-		576,479		726,702		-		726,702
Program service revenue:												
Convention, conferences and												
workshops		4,304,709		-		4,304,709		3,809,836		-		3,809,836
Publications		212,313		-		212,313		206,563		-		206,563
Advertising		176,914		-		176,914		137,886		-		137,886
Rental income		123,276		-		123,276		109,420		-		109,420
Royalties and service fees		54,715		-		54,715		51,661		-		51,661
Other revenue		378,468		-		378,468		381,869		-		381,869
Investment income, net of fees		729,808		13,975		743,783		125,780		2,714		128,494
Net assets released from restrictions		24,301		(24,301)				52,689		(52,689)		-
Total revenue and support		9,525,849		(8,994)		9,516,855		7,938,481		(10,285)		7,928,196
Expenses:												
Program services		5,678,539		-		5,678,539		4,620,440		-		4,620,440
Supporting services		3,063,802				3,063,802		2,520,676		-		2,520,676
Total expenses		8,742,341				8,742,341		7,141,116				7,141,116
Change in net assets		783,508		(8,994)		774,514		797,365		(10,285)		787,080
Net assets at beginning of year		8,545,347		198,580		8,743,927		7,747,982		208,865		7,956,847
Net assets at end of year	\$	9,328,855	\$	189,586	\$	9,518,441	\$	8,545,347	\$	198,580	\$	8,743,927