

## CTE NEEDED SO MORE YOUNG PENNSYLVANIANS ENTER THE WORKFORCE WITH SKILLS EMPLOYERS NEED



### TALKING POINTS

- Pennsylvania companies are hiring as the state recovers from the pandemic, but many report having trouble finding skilled workers.
- That makes career and technical education (CTE) more important than ever so more young Pennsylvanians can enter the workforce with the skills that employers need.
- A new report from PA Partnerships for Children shows that the state's CTE system can prepare more students, more effectively, by focusing on CTE in the earlier grades and supporting apprenticeship programs and other partnerships between CTE programs and local businesses.
- But these improvements will only be successful with adequate funding.
- Since 2019-20, CTE has been flat funded. Pennsylvania pays for only 8% of the cost of CTE programs, with nearly all the rest paid for by local school districts. Many do not have the resources to provide CTE to every student who wants it.

**BOTTOM LINE: To give more students opportunity and help build a more competitive Pennsylvania workforce, it is critical for policymakers to increase the state investment in the career and technical education subsidy by \$25 million in this year's budget. The state has the funds available to make a significant investment in CTE this year - we need our legislators to step up.**

CLOSE PENNSYLVANIA'S **\$4.6B** PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING GAP

Property taxes are rising, and public schools are struggling.

**A major down payment in the FY 2022-23 budget is an urgent necessity.**