

CTE Night Frequently Asked Questions

Category	Question	Answer
General	What exactly is Career Technical Education?	Career Technical Education is a multi-year sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to post-secondary education and careers. CTE courses create relevance for students through industry experience.
General	Do all CUSD high schools offer CTE courses?	Yes, we have pathways on all five comprehensive sites.
General	What grade does a student have to be in to participate in CTE?	Generally, CTE courses are for 11th and 12th graders. There are a few pathways and campuses that offer CTE classes to 9th and 10th grades, though. Make sure you ask your counselor what courses are available to you if you are interested in a CTE pathway.
General	How does taking a two-period CTE class affect a student's schedule?	These two period classes are often referred to as an ROP class. ROP stands for Regional Occupational Program and is a way for classroom instruction to be combined with hands-on career learning experiences through a community classroom. Since ROP classes take up two periods in a student's schedule the CUSD PE requirement is waived as long as a student stays in that class throughout the year. Students in an ROP class will also attend that class every day, even on block day as the two periods are built back to back in a student's schedule. For example, 1st and 2nd period, 3rd and 4th period, or 6th and 7th period.
General	Can I take AP classes if I am enrolled in CTE?	Yes! Many students take both AP and CTE courses. The PE waiver helps by opening up another available class.
General	What is the difference between CTE and CART?	Both CART and the five comprehensive high schools offer CTE classes and pathways. CART is open to Fresno Unified and Clovis Unified students, has its own registration process and a class schedule that is different from the five CUSD high schools.
General	What makes a CTE class different from a non-CTE class?	In a traditional academic class, you receive formal lessons in PPT or lecture form and are ultimately tested on the lesson. In a CTE class we flip that model and allow you to start with being "Tested" or challenged by a hands-on task then learning the lesson while doing the activity. CTE is all about "learning by doing".

		CTE gives students a chance to discover their talents, pursue their passions and chart a course for their professional lives after high school.
Enrollment	I found a pathway I would like to join--what is my next step?	Contact your counselor or your school's CTE counselor to learn more about CTE.
Enrollment	Can a student take a CTE class at another school site?	Yes, CUSD students may take courses offered anywhere in the District.
Enrollment	Is transportation provided if a student wants to take a CTE class at another school site?	In most cases, transportation is not provided.
Enrollment	How do I enroll in a CTE class that is offered at a different school than my home school?	Work with your counselor to determine when the class you are considering is offered at the other school site and if this class will fit into your schedule or not. Your counselor will also be able to discuss transportation with you and let you know if the District provides transportation to the other school site or not.
General	What is a community classroom?	A community classroom is an off-site organization that provides a learning laboratory placement for CTE classes. For example, the community classroom for Education Careers students is an elementary classroom. The community classroom for an Automotive course may be a local mechanic's shop.
General	Some classes mention offering dual enrollment. What does that mean?	Some of our courses allow students to receive college credit as a high school student while still receiving credit towards graduation. Some of the community colleges we offer dual enrollment through are Clovis Community College, Fresno City College, and Reedley College.
Enrollment	If I don't like the CTE class or pathway that I am in, can I switch classes or pathways?	The CTE classes are two-semester classes. If you do not like the class or the pathway, work with your site's CTE counselor to determine which CTE pathway may interest you and fit into your schedule, and keep in mind the drop deadline when making your decision.

General	How have CTE classes worked during the Pandemic?	CTE courses have continued during distance learning. The District has provided resources such as Virtual Job Shadow to CTE teachers wanting to provide virtual community classroom experiences. In some instances, some students who lacked the ability to transport themselves to CTE programs on other sites have been able to take CTE classes due to the virtual format.
Design, Visual and Media Arts	Is there a photography pathway that students can take?	Yes, both Buchanan and Clovis High offer the Design, Visual and Media Arts pathway which includes digital photography.
Food Service and Hospitality	What classes does the Culinary Arts CTE program cover?	Students in the Food Service and Hospitality pathway take a culinary arts class, a hospitality management class and a food science and nutrition class.
General	What programs does it provide for my daughters who are 10 and 13?	While CTE classes are 10th - 12th grade classes, it is never too early to start learning about CTE. Additionally, we have plans to hold a CTE Academy this summer that would provide opportunities for younger students to survey a variety of our CTE courses.
General	What CTE classes can you take at Clovis Community College?	There are no CUSD CTE pathways offered at Clovis Community College; some students are enrolled in courses provided by CCC such as Education 10 and Child Development 1, which our Education Careers and Child Development students take via dual enrollment. There are other dual-enrolled opportunities at Clovis Community and other colleges. See your counselor if interested.
General	Which CTE classes are “double periods” vs “single periods”?	The Education pathway sophomore and junior English classes are single period classes. Other pathways offer single period classes as introductory and concentrator classes. Please see the Career Technical Education Course Description Catalog available on the CTE website or consult your counselor.
Child Development/ Education	Can you start taking classes for the CTE Education or Child Development Pathway your freshman year?	Students can join the Educator’s Rising Club as a freshman, but the first class in the pathway would be the sophomore Children’s Literature English class.

Enrollment	If a CTE class requires two periods from a student, is it possible to only take one period if there is not enough space in my schedule?	No, if the CTE class is a two-period class, students must take both periods of the class.
Production and Managerial Arts	For the film class, does it also give a jump start if I wanted to be involved in music video making?	Students in the Videography and Multimedia Communication classes offered at Buchanan would learn skills that would support a career in music video publishing.
Child Development/ Education	What is the difference between the Education pathway and the Child Development pathway?	Child Development classes are focused on pre-school through 2 nd grade, while Education classes are focused on school-age children.
Child Development/ Education	What CTE class can 12th graders take for the Education pathway? And does it take the place of an English class?	In the Education pathway, seniors take the two-period Careers in Education class, which does include senior English.
General	Can you earn a certificate after completing a class?	Yes! Many CTE classes provide certificates or industry qualifications that students can take to future employers.
General	Is CART beneficial for someone looking to pursue a medical career?	CART offers both a Biotechnology and a Biomedicine lab which could prove beneficial to someone interested in a medical career. Clovis North, Buchanan, Clovis East and Clovis High all offer the Patient Care CTE pathway as another option for students interested in a career in the medical field.
General	If I am in a sport PE class, will I still be able to be involved in CTE?	Consult your counselor or the CTE counselor at your site. Depending on your future goals, it could be possible to take both a PE class and CTE classes.

Emergency Response	My son is interested in the firefighter program. Does he start as a junior?	Yes, students take Firefighting I as juniors and then Firefighting II as seniors.
General	What hours are the classes? What does a typical school day look like?	Two-period CTE classes are generally offered 1/2, 3/4 and/or 6/7. A typical day for a junior or senior would be: English Social Science Math Science/World Language CTE Class CTE Class
Animal Science	Within the animal science pathway, are animal science and vet science two different classes?	Yes, students enrolled in the Animal Science pathway generally take CE Animal Science as juniors then Veterinary Science as seniors.
Design, Visual and Media Arts	Are only juniors and seniors allowed to take the digital photography and publishing classes?	It is possible to take these classes at lower levels, depending on one's schedule. Please see your counselor.
Design, Visual and Media Arts	For photography, is it hard to keep up with the class if you did not take an introductory class?	The first class students take in the pathway is Introduction to Digital Photography, which provides the necessary background for the Digital Photography II class or the ROP Digital Photography class.
Enrollment	Can you take two CTE classes if one counts as an English class? For example, Agriculture at Clovis East and the Education pathway at Clovis North?	We do have students who take two CTE classes. You would need to consult your CTE counselor or your academic counselor to determine when the classes are offered at the two sites and if adequate transportation time (such as the lunch period) exists. The Education pathway class does include English which may allow for the second class, depending on a student's progress toward meeting all graduation requirements.
Enrollment	How does a student coordinate his/her schedule with other required courses?	Work with your counselor to make sure you are meeting all graduation requirements.

General	How has distance learning affected the hands-on portion of the Education pathway?	Students in the Education pathway are Zoom-ing into their community classrooms and assisting elementary teachers with break out rooms and small groups rather than travelling to the elementary school sites.
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