

Career Technical Student Organizations

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) are open to students enrolled in career technical education (CTE) programs. Through a variety of relevant activities, students participating in CTSOs develop and practice leadership skills while applying occupation and academic content knowledge.

Typically, each CTSO has a local, state, and national chapter or affiliate. Students are invited to participate in the CTSOs as long as they meet the program's eligibility requirements. In a few cases, a CTSO may continue or begin in postsecondary programs.

Following is a list of CTSOs with brief descriptions obtained from their websites.

Business Professionals of America aims to prepare a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills for students at the secondary and the post-secondary level. <http://www.bpa.org/>

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. DECA once stood for Distributive Education Clubs of America. <http://www.deca.org/>

Future Business Leaders of America serves students in grades 7-12 who are interested in business or business education careers. <http://www.fbld-pbl.org/>

Future Educators Association provides students interested in education-related careers with activities and materials that help them explore the teaching profession in a variety of ways. <http://www.futureeducators.org/>

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America provides personal growth, leadership development, and career preparation opportunities for students in Family and Consumer Sciences education. <http://www.fcclainc.org/>

Health Occupations Students of America promotes career opportunities in the health care industry and aims to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. <http://www.hosa.org/>

National FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. <https://www.ffa.org/home>

National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization is an organization associated with agriculture/agribusiness and natural resources in approved postsecondary institutions offering associate degrees or vocational diplomas and/or certificates. <http://www.nationalpas.org/>

National Young Farmer Educational Association's purpose is to develop leaders, inspire service, strengthen communities, and enhance the success potential for American agriculture. <http://www.nyfea.org/>

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industries working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce through educational programs, events, and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms.
<http://www.skillsusa.org>

Technology Student Association offers students leadership and opportunities in technology, innovation, design, and engineering.
<http://www.tsaweb.org>