

# CTE DIRECTIONS

## Career and Technical Education News and Information Student Edition

October 2011



### Message

Are you a member of a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO)? [DECA](#), [FBLA](#), [FCCLA](#), [FFA](#), [HOSA](#), [Skills USA](#), and [TSA](#) are essential leadership organizations where you can gain personal and leadership skills, making you more employable, preparing you to become productive citizens, and assisting you in assuming positive roles in the home and community.

In Utah, 18,573 secondary students participate in a CTSO and more than 1.5 million students participate in a CTSO nationwide. As CTSO members you are doing amazing things and are having a positive impact in your school and community. Participation in a CTSO is an important component of the CTE Pathway you are pursuing. Being involved in a CTSO will not only benefit your life but the lives of those around you.

Participation in a CTSO will provide you with opportunities to learn three skill sets, which business and industry say are necessary in today's workforce. These skills are:

1. **Academic skills** – You will explore career-related tasks aligned with state academic standards.
2. **Technical skills** – You will participate in professional development activities and competitive events gain enhanced job-specific knowledge and skills critical to future careers.
3. **Employability skills** – You will develop critical workplace skills through teamwork, decision making, critical thinking, leadership, community awareness, career awareness, and personal and social development.

Throughout the month of October CTSOs will be holding their Fall Leadership Conference. Please tell us about the Fall Leadership Conference you attended and what your chapter has planned for the year. Email your stories and calendar items to [UtahCTE@schools.utah.gov](mailto:UtahCTE@schools.utah.gov).

If you are not a member of a CTSO, and would like to become a member, talk to your school counselor to get connected with the CTSO advisor in your school.

### Career Highlight – Wind Energy

Milford High School has garnered a good share of attention for the great work they are doing to introduce wind power to students in their classrooms and beyond. What job opportunities can students interested in wind energy expect? Generally, jobs will fall into four broad categories, with a range of education/training requirements:

1. **Professional** – Workers in this category typically have Bachelor's degrees or higher and work as engineers or scientists (e.g., Electrical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Wildlife Biologist).
2. **Construction** – Workers are needed to build and repair roads, buildings and other structures. (Occupations include Laborers, Electricians and Construction Equipment Operators).
3. **Production** – These workers operate machines and other equipment to assemble goods and distribute energy – for example, Machinists, Machine Tool Operators, and Assemblers.
4. **Transportation** – Truck Drivers and Crane Operators are the most common occupations in this category. Wind energy is a growing source of renewable energy, and may also be a great source of an exciting career!



[Watch](#) how Andy Swapp, Technology and Engineering teacher at Milford High School, and his students brought wind power to Milford, Utah.

### FFA Members and the Utah State Fair

Did you attend the Utah State Fair last month? Can you say "[AGRI-Culture?](#)" Hundreds of thousands of people attended the Utah State Fair and 16,767 children visited the "Little Hands on the Farm" exhibit. FFA state officers worked hard during the summer to plan and prepare the "Little Hands on the Farm" exhibit. FFA members managed the exhibit which provides an agricultural literacy experience for thousands of children, their parents, and grandparents. This interactive experience was especially for children ages 2 to 10. Kids (and their parents) gained a better understanding of the farm to grocery store process, as they became "Little Hands on the Farm!"



### Scholarships

Novell and the Utah State Office of Education recently announced the annual [Young Network Professionals \(YNP\) Scholarship Awards](#). This award honors high school seniors who have demonstrated high-tech experience and leadership abilities in their schools and communities. Plan and prepare now to submit your application by the February 3, 2012 deadline. *Get started!*

Learn about the [CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards](#). CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards are open to any graduating senior student who plans to get CTE training after high school. The application deadline is February 27, 2012. *Get started* now to apply for one of the over 110 CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards.

### Calendar

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| <b>October 4:</b> <a href="#">SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference</a> – Davis Conference Center – Layton, UT | <b>October 13-14:</b> <a href="#">DECA Fall Leadership Conference</a> – Park City, UT                                  |
| <b>October 5-6:</b> <a href="#">FCCLA Fall Leadership Conference</a> – Provo Marriott Hotel – Provo, UT       | <b>October 15:</b> <a href="#">TSA Fall Leadership Conference</a> – Jordan Applied Technology Center – West Jordan, UT |
| <b>October 10-11:</b> <a href="#">HOSA</a> Fall Leadership Conference – Provo Marriott Hotel – Provo, UT      | <b>October 19-22:</b> <a href="#">National FFA Convention</a> – Indianapolis, IN                                       |
| <b>October 11:</b> <a href="#">FFA Field Day</a> – Snow College – Ephraim, UT                                 | <b>October 25-26:</b> <a href="#">FBLA Fall Leadership Conference</a> – Provo Marriott Hotel – Provo, UT               |

Career and Technical Education: *Giving Students the Edge*  
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