



## Report to the WA ACTE board

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### 1. Career Connect Washington update

#### CCW Progress Highlights

- 115 Career Launch programs created since 2019
  - This includes registered apprenticeships and programs at the K-12, CTC, and 4 year institutions that combine college-level learning with paid work experience.
  - Program builder funding supports new and existing programs to expand in high-demand areas.
- 8,424 Career Launch completions since 2019
  - Students who complete Career Launch programs earn a valuable credential beyond high school, are competitive candidates for entry level positions, and have paid work experience.
- Participation in Career Launch programs has grown 28% since implementation of CCW legislation in 2019, despite the pandemic and related challenges.
- 15,578 young people enrolled in Career Launch opportunities in the 2023-2024 school year including 12,653 registered apprentices, earning paid work-site experience and achieving valuable credentials beyond high school.
  - Enrollment funding at the CTC's and 4 year institutions supports these students by ensuring academic institutions have the capacity to partner with industry on paid work experiences and maintain the high-quality standard of Career Launch programs.

#### Legislative considerations

While Governor Inslee's budget functionally maintains current CCW funding, this includes a \$6 million increase in state funding to prevent significant cuts to programs when federal funding expires at the end of the year. To secure this additional \$6 million in state funds and maintain current funding levels for CCW in this budget environment would be a big win. It's not what we had hoped for, but it would be an ideal outcome based on the budget realities facing the legislature. We are working collectively with the CCW leadership team and partners to help legislators understand the value of the CCW initiative and maintain funding for the effort.

Link to partner talking points [here](#)

**Work ahead:**

- Targeted funding to Regional STEM networks based on identified regional needs
- Round 13 Program Builder grants in review process
- Sector Leader RFP open, due March 28
- Measure and map Career Connected Learning programs across the state (both CCW-funded and not). Intended outcomes:
  - Comprehensive picture of career pathways programs regionally and statewide
    - What, where, and who is participating
  - Utilize to inform strategic planning around program and access needs
  - Raise awareness of pathways available to students, families, communities, industry, explore potential to integrate to statewide HSBP
  - Compliance to [RCW](#) (5a-b)

**2. CTE Dual Credit bill**

[HB 1273](#) prime sponsor: Rep Paul

In House Education Committee—as of 1-16-25, not yet scheduled for hearing

Key Elements:

- Expanding regional dual credit capacity (replicating the [NW Pilot](#) in each ESD)
- Creating a pathway toward statewide articulations
- Developing a plan to improve or replace the SERS/CTC link
- Reporting data-informed recommendations for state-level dual credit policies