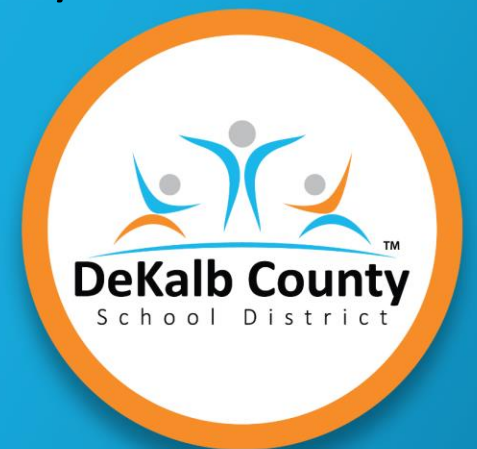


Career Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE): Expanding Pathways to College, Career, and Beyond

January 12, 2026
Division of Curriculum and Instruction



CTAE Mission and Vision

Vision

- We believe that all students can and should be equipped to pursue a meaningful career, strengthen their community, and drive economic prosperity.

Mission

- In pursuit of this vision, we will collaborate with industry and community partners to provide high-quality educational experiences for students to prepare them for workplace success.

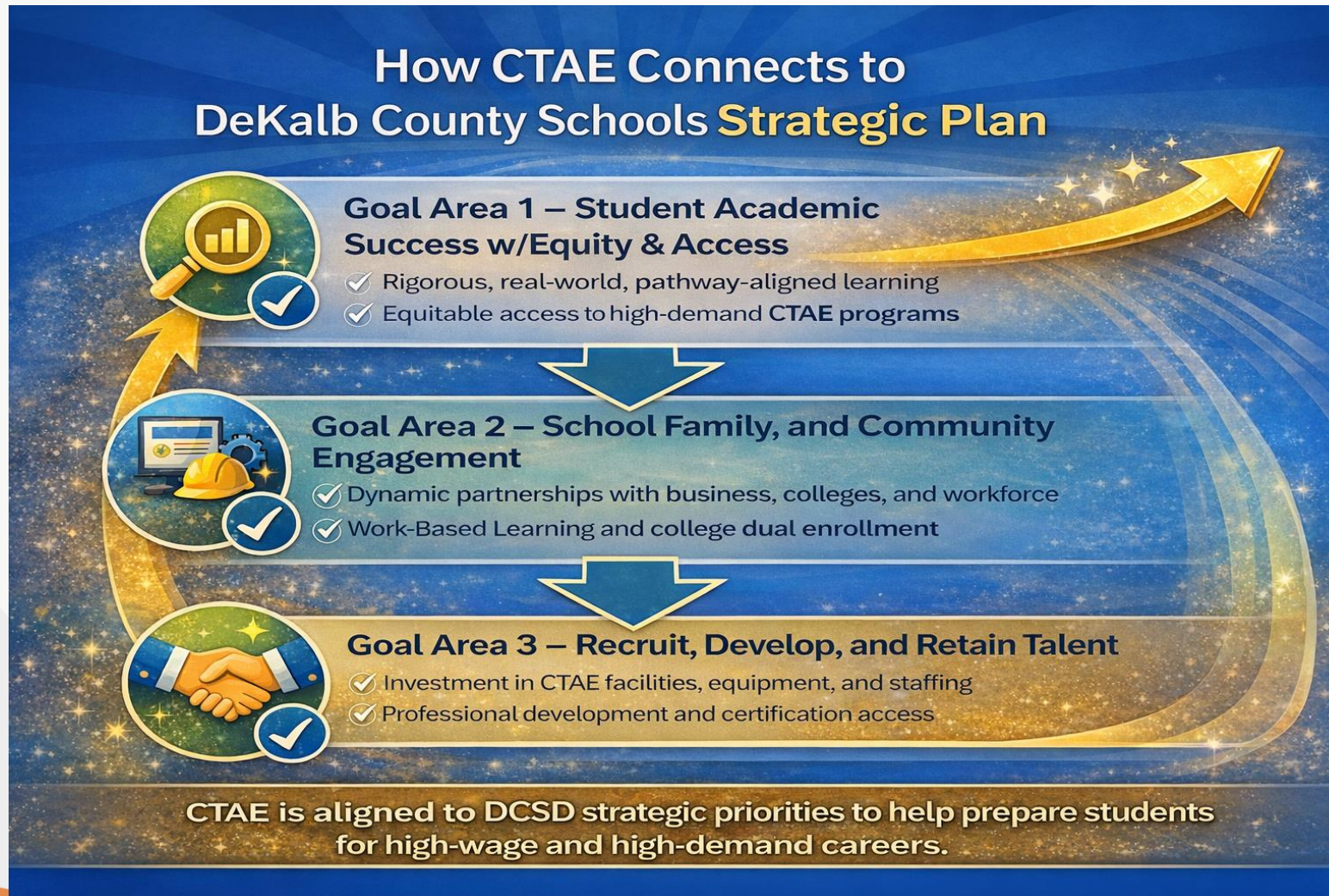


Goals

1. Provide CTAE programs and pathways that are aligned to workforce and economic development
2. Engage and prepare students for high-demand, high-skill, and high-wage careers
3. Support teachers to deliver high quality instruction, activities, and events
4. Develop marketing strategies to improve the image of career-focused programs and to raise the profile of CTAE in the school district and to the greater DeKalb County community



Connecting to the Plan



CTAE At-A-Glance

40+ High School Pathways

6 Middle School Pathways

25 Industry Certified Pathways

33 Certified STE(A)M Schools

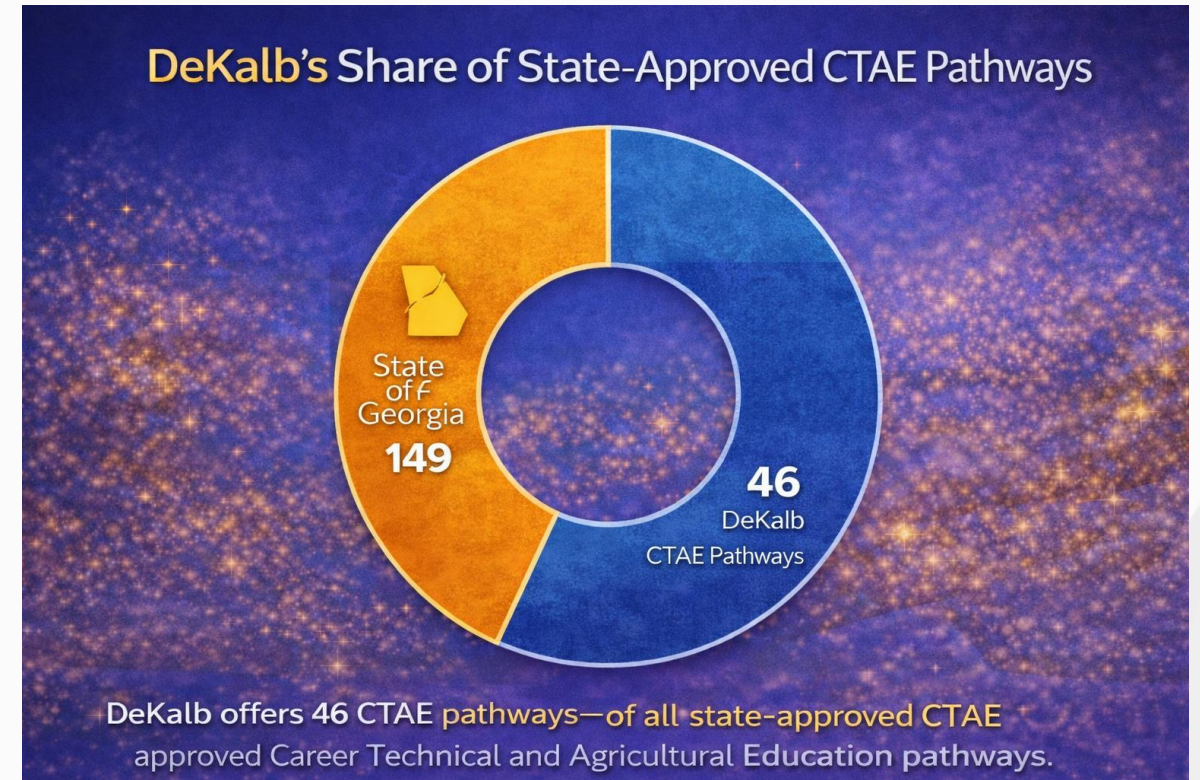
(24 elementary, 8 middle, 1 high)

Over 30,000 students enrolled in CTAE courses



CTAE Pathway Availability

- The GADOE currently offers 17 Career Cluster that include 149 CTAE pathways
- DeKalb County School District offers all 17 Career Clusters, representing 46 pathways.
- Pathway offerings are strategically selected in collaboration with the CTAE Advisory board based on:
 - Student interest and enrollment demand
 - Regional workforce and economic development needs
 - Facility capacity, staffing, and industry partnerships



[Click here to see all GADOE CTAE Clusters and pathways available](#)

CTAE

Elementary School (Exposure)/Middle School (Exploration)

Elementary CTAE Exposure in DeKalb County Schools

Building Curiosity, Creativity, and Career Awareness

STE(A)M Learning & Design Challenges

Hands-on STEM projects & creative problem-solving



Coding, Robotics & Problem-Solving

Coding, robotics & critical thinking activities



Career Awareness & Real-World Connections

Exploring jobs & community roles



Sparking curiosity and building the foundation for future careers!



Middle School CTAE Career Exploration in DeKalb County Schools

Exploring High-Demand Career Pathways & Building Career Skills

Grades 6-8 explore high-demand pathways to build essential skills and explore diverse career fields.

Business



Business

Intro to business & finance

Computer Science



Computer Science

Coding & cybersecurity

Engineering



Engineering

STEM skills & problem-solving

Family & Consumer Science



Family & Consumer Science

Culinary arts & life skills

STE(A)M











STE(A)M

Hands-on STEM & creativity











CTAE pathways introduce middle schoolers to in-demand careers and **build employability skills** for the future!





Exploration – Middle School Pathway Offerings

 Bethune MS	 Cedar Grove MS	 Chamblee MS	 Champion	 Chapel Hill MS	 Columbia MS	 Druid Hills MS	 Freedom MS
Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance	Business Management & Finance
Computer Science		Engineering & Technology	Computer Science		Family & Consumer Science	Engineering & Technology	Engineering & Technology
Engineering & Technology			Engineering & Technology				Family & Consumer Science
		STE(A)M	STE(A)M				

Exploration – Middle School Pathway Offerings

 Henderson MS	 Lithonia MS	 McNair MS	 Miller Grove MS	 Peachtree Charter	 Redan MS	 Salem MS	 Sequoyah MS
<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p>	<p>Engineering & Technology</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>

Exploration – Middle School Pathway Offerings

 Stephenson MS	 Stone Mountain MS	 Tucker MS	 Wadsworth MS
<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Family & Consumer Science</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p>	<p>Business Management & Finance</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p>	<p>Computer Science</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p>









Engagement – High School Pathway Offerings

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Architecture & Construction	Arts, A/V Tech & Communications	Business, Management & Administration	Education & Training	Energy	Government & Public Admin.	Health Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Construction ❖ Heavy Equipment Operator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A/V Technology & Film ❖ Graphic Communications ❖ Web Design ❖ Web & Digital Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Business & Technology ❖ Entrepreneurship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Early Childhood Education ❖ Teaching as a Profession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Energy Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Air Force JROTC ❖ Army JROTC ❖ Navy JROTC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Allied Health ❖ Dental Science ❖ Medical Assistant ❖ Patient Care/CNA ❖ Sports Medicine
Hospitality & Tourism	Human Services	Information Technology	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	Manufacturing	Marketing	STEM	Transportation/ Distribution/ Logistics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Baking and Pastry ❖ Culinary Arts ❖ Sports and Entertainment Marketing ❖ Hospitality, Recreation, and Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Barbering ❖ Cosmetology ❖ Nutrition & Food Science ❖ Interior, Fashion, & Textiles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Artificial Intelligence ❖ Computer Science ❖ Cloud Computing ❖ Cybersecurity ❖ Programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Law Enforcement/Criminal Investigations ❖ Law Enforcement/Forensic Science ❖ Fire and EMS/Public Safety Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Manufacturing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Marketing and Management ❖ Fashion Merchandising ❖ Sports & Entertainment Marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Engineering Technology ❖ Engineering Drafting & Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ General Automotive Technology ❖ Advanced Automotive Technology

Engagement – High School Pathway Offerings

 Arabia Mountain HS	 Cedar Grove HS	 Chamblee HS	 Clarkston HS	 Columbia HS	 Cross Keys HS	 DeKalb Early College Academy	 DeKalb School of the Arts
Agriculture - (Plant and Landscape Systems) A/V Tech & Film Culinary Arts Entrepreneurship Energy Systems Engineering Technology Healthcare - Allied Health	A/V Tech & Film Business & Technology Early Childhood Engineering Technology Fashion Merch. & Retail Mgt. Healthcare - Allied Health JROTC-Navy Web Design	A/V Tech & Film Computer Science Cyber Security Engineering Technology Entrepreneurship Healthcare - Sports Medicine JROTC-Army Nutrition and Food Science Programming	A/V Tech & Film Computer Science Cloud Computing Cyber Security Engineering Technology Entrepreneurship Healthcare - Allied Health JROTC-Army Nutrition and Food Science	A/V Tech & Film Culinary Arts Cyber Security Early Childhood Engineering & Technology Fashion Merch. & Retail Mgt. Entrepreneurship JROTC - Navy Programming	Barbering Computer Science Engineering & Technology Entrepreneurship Hospitality & Tourism JROTC - Navy Nutrition & Food Science	Engineering Technology	A/V Tech Film

Engagement – High School Pathway Offerings

 Druid Hills HS	 Dunwoody HS	 Elizabeth Andrews HS	 Lakeside HS	 Lithonia HS	 Martin Luther King Jr HS	 McNair HS	 Miller Grove HS
<p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Interior Design</p> <p>JROTC-Navy</p> <p>Nutrition & Food Science</p> <p>Web & Digital Design</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Healthcare - Allied Health & Medical Assist</p> <p>Heavy Equipment Operator</p> <p>Interior Design</p> <p>JROTC – Air Force</p> <p>Marketing Mgt.</p> <p>Nutrition & Food Science</p>	<p>Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Marketing</p> <p>Web & Digital Design</p> <p><i>Pathways are subject to change</i></p>	<p>A/V Tech Film</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Culinary Arts</p> <p>Early Childhood</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>JROTC- Air Force</p> <p>Marketing</p> <p>Management</p> <p>Nutrition & Food Science</p>	<p>Cyber Security</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Fashion Merch. & Retail Mgt.</p> <p>JROTC - Navy</p> <p>Sports & Ent. Marketing</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Graphic Communications</p> <p>JROTC-Navy</p> <p>Nutrition & Food Science</p> <p>Sports & Ent. Marketing</p> <p>Web & Digital</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film</p> <p>Culinary Arts</p> <p>Engineering & Technology</p> <p>Entrepreneurship</p> <p>JROTC - Air Force</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film</p> <p>Business & Technology</p> <p>Culinary Arts</p> <p>Early Childhood</p> <p>Fashion Merch. & Retail Mgt.</p> <p>Sports & Ent. Marketing</p> <p>Healthcare - Allied Health</p> <p>Law and Justice</p> <p>JROTC-Navy</p> <p>Web Design</p>

Engagement – High School Pathway Offerings

 Redan HS	 Southwest DeKalb HS	 Stephenson HS	 Stone Mountain HS	 Towers HS	 Tucker HS
<p>Baking and Pastry Business & Technology Computer Science Culinary Arts Engineering & Technology Healthcare – Allied Health JROTC - Air Force Marketing Management</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film Business & Technology Culinary Arts Engineering & Technology JROTC - Navy Marketing Management Programming</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film Business & Technology Culinary Arts Engineering & Technology Entrepreneurship Fashion Merch. & Retail Mgt. Healthcare-Sports Medicine Programming JROTC - Navy Sports & Entertainment Mktg. Teaching as a Profession</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film Programming Entrepreneurship Early Childhood JROTC - Navy</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film Engineering & Technology Entrepreneurship Programming</p>	<p>A/V Tech Film Culinary Arts Computer Science Engineering & Technology Entrepreneurship Healthcare – Allied Health Health JROTC - Air Force Marketing Management Web & Digital Design</p>

Engagement – Technical High School Pathway Offerings

 DeKalb HS of Technology-North	 DeKalb HS of Technology-South	 Warren Technical High School
<p>Auto Maintenance Barbering Construction Cosmetology Healthcare - Allied Health Dental Science Patient Care Law & Public Safety Manufacturing</p>	<p>Auto Maintenance A/V Film Tech Barbering Cosmetology Cybersecurity Healthcare – (2) Allied Health Patient Care Law & Public Safety Manufacturing Teaching as a Profession Welding</p>	<p>Auto Maintenance Construction Culinary Arts Entrepreneurship Graphic Communications Plant & Landscaping Systems Tourism & Hospitality</p>

Career Tech Student Organizations

- Over 10,000 students currently active
- Over 2,000 students participating in local, regional, state, and international competitive events



Highlights and Activities

District-Wide CTAE Activities

-  DCSD Annual Film Festival
-  DCSD Annual Work Based Learning Conference
-  Culinary Expo
 - Wing Fest
 - Flavors of DeKalb
 - Rolling Flavors of DeKalb Food Truck*

* DSCD-owned food truck coming soon
-  NFTE Startup Showcase
-  Future Georgia Educators
-  Trade and Industry Expo



nfte SOUTHEAST REGION DeKalb County

Startup Tech SHOWCASE

Where Coding Meets the Entrepreneurial Mindset

Featuring student App based businesses from

Be our Special Guest! Thursday, May 4, 2023

4:30 pm - 6:30pm

Our students at Cedar Grove Middle School and The Champion School join forces for an evening as they showcase their app based business ideas to our community.

The event is **FREE** and open to family and friends of our participating students, local entrepreneurs, business professionals, educators, a community leaders.

The Champion School Gymnasium
5205 Mossa Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Questions about the Startup Showcase event? Contact Jennifer Smith (jennifer@nfte.com)

RESERVE MY SPOT



SAVE THE DATE

DEKALB STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 | 6:00 PM

SCAD SHOW | 1470 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, GA



DeKalb County TRADE & INDUSTRY CAREER EXPOSURE DAY 2025

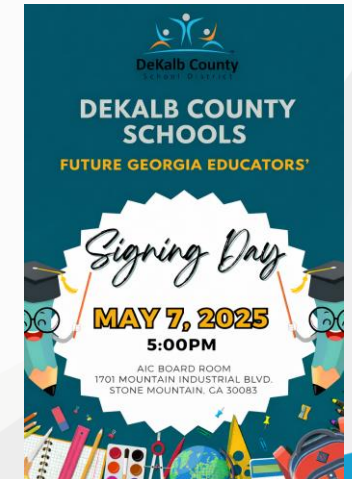
Do you have an interest in:

- Construction
- Facilities & Maintenance
- Transportation / Automotive
- School Nutrition / Culinary
- HVAC
- Electrical
- Public Safety
- Geographical Information Systems

Connect with industry professionals, participate in interactive experiences, and gain insight into a wide range of high-demand career pathways. This event will also highlight potential part-time, summer internship, apprenticeship, certification, and full-time employment opportunities for students planning to enter the workforce after high school.

Tuesday, December 2, 2025
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

DeKalb County School District
Sam A. Mess Service Center
1780 Montreat Road, Tucker, GA 30084



DeKalb County

DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOLS

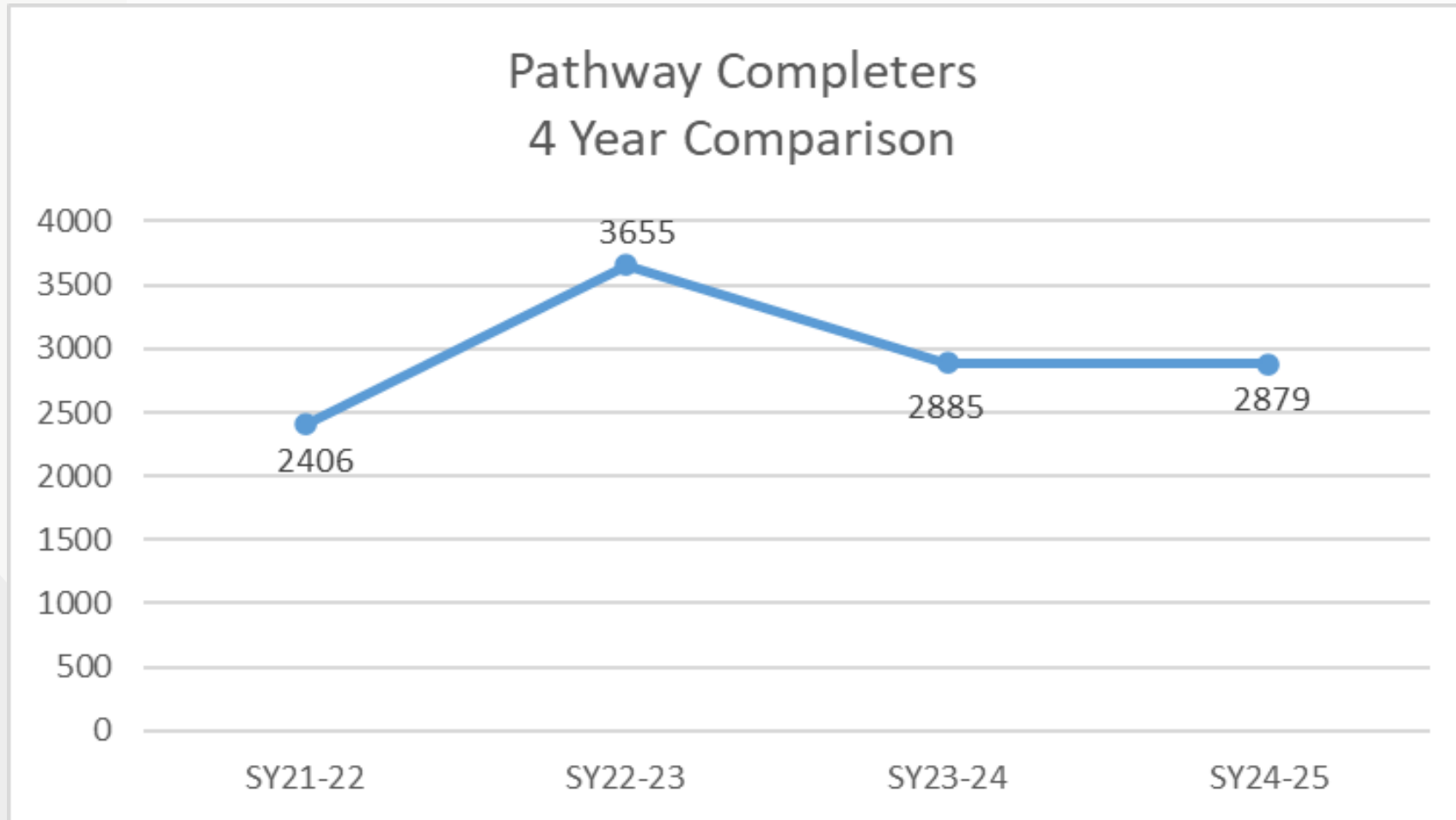
FUTURE GEORGIA EDUCATORS'

Signing Day

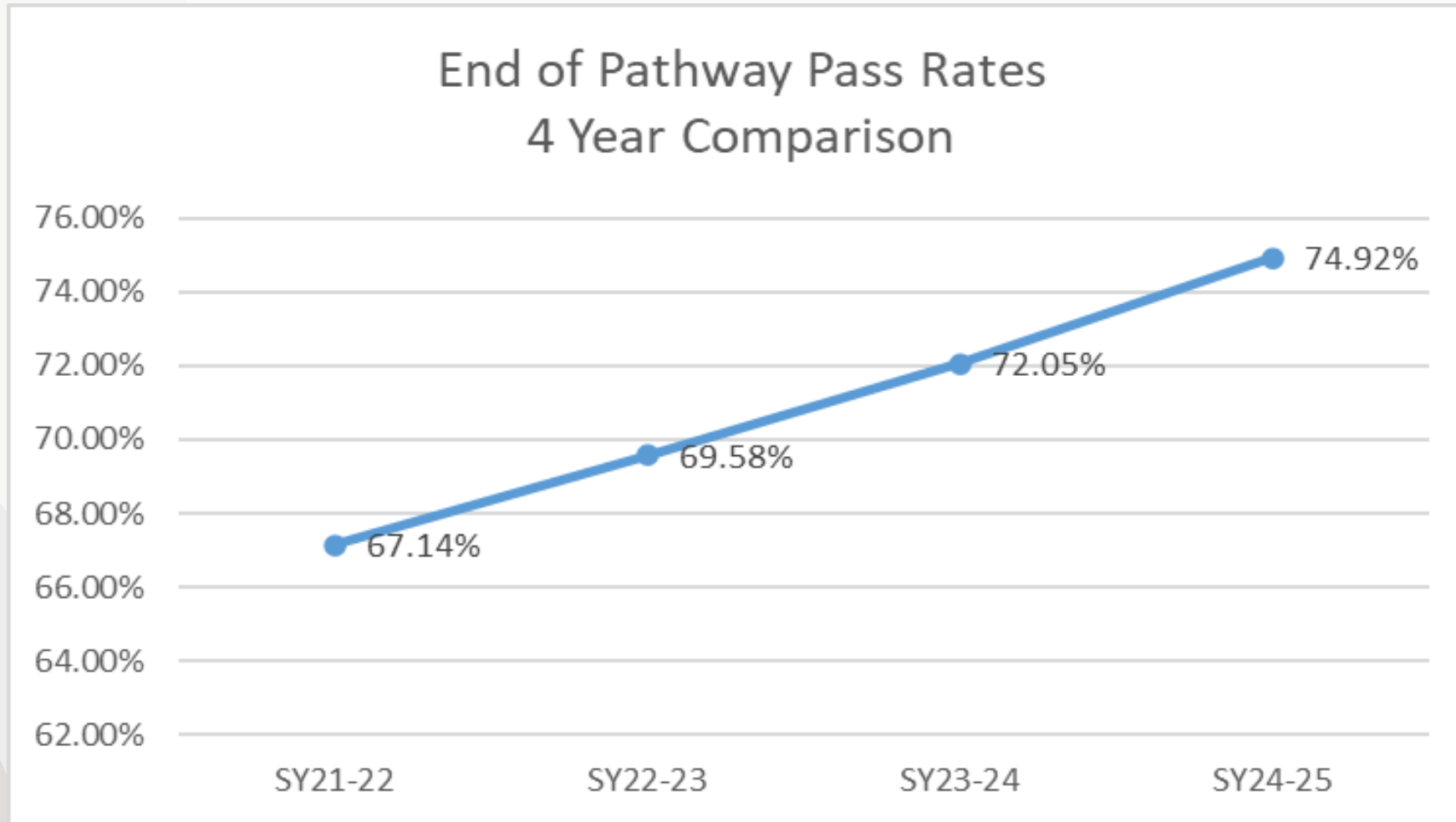
MAY 7, 2025
5:00PM

AIC BOARD ROOM
1701 MOUNTAIN INDUSTRIAL BLVD.
STONE MOUNTAIN, GA 30083

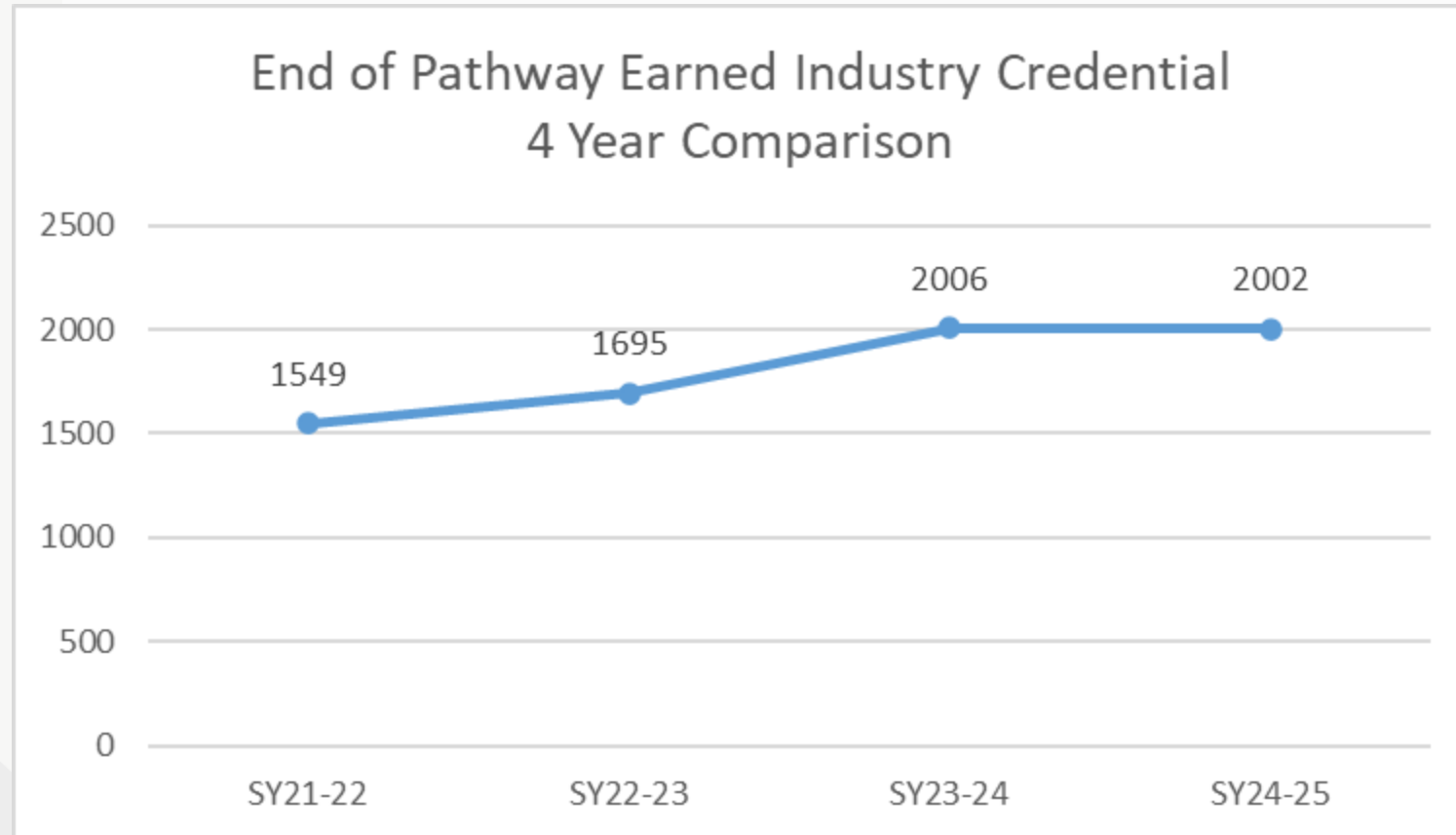
How Are We Performing



How Are We Performing

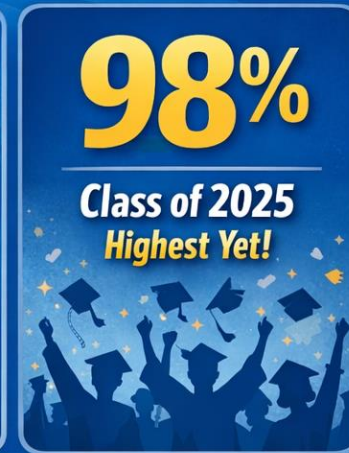
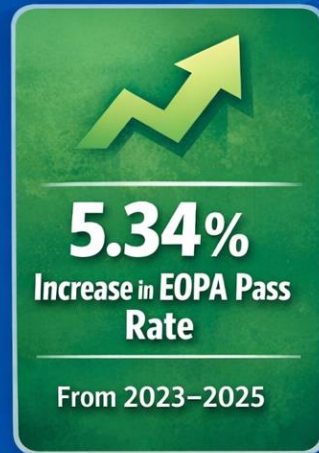


How Are We Performing



How Are We Performing


CTAE Outcomes Reflect *Strong Growth & Student Achievement*



Driven by the dedication of CTAE Teachers, School Leaders, Industry Partners, and Students Across DeKalb County.

Work Based Learning – How Does it Work

Work-Based Learning (WBL) in DeKalb

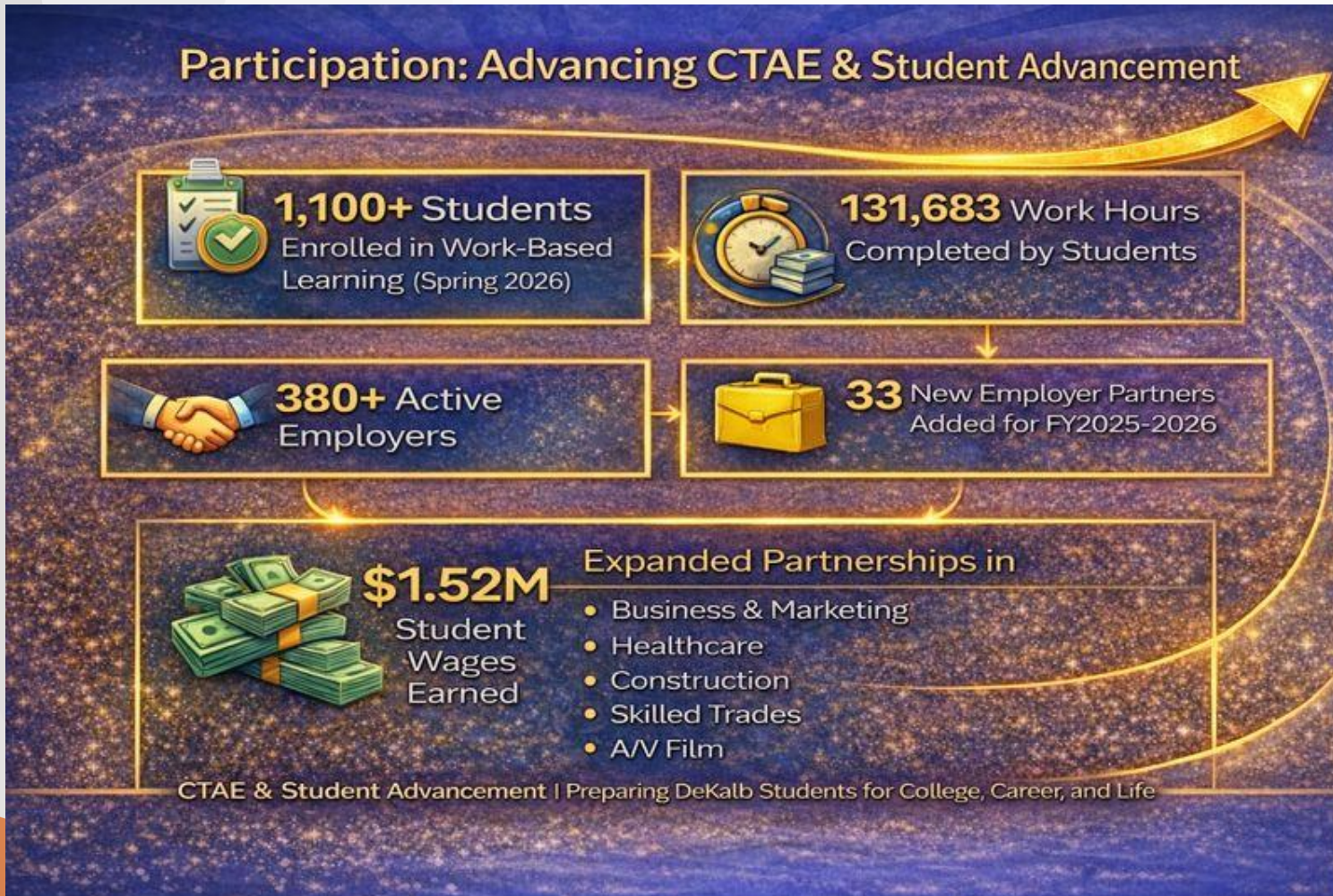
 **Work-Based Learning**
Provides students with real-world, career-connected experiences

- ✓ Connects classroom learning to the workplace
- ✓ Builds industry-relevant skills and professional behaviors
- ✓ Improves student outcomes and success
- ✓ Prepares students for high-demand careers

Preparing Students for College, Career, and Life



Work Based Learning – The Numbers



Dual Enrollment in DeKalb

Dual Enrollment

The Dual Enrollment program (once *Move on When Ready*) allows students to take post-secondary courses while earning both high school and post-secondary credit


College & High School Credit

In 2020 House Bill 444 adjusted the maximum number of credit hours allowed from 60 hours to 30 hours

60 hr. →  30 hr.



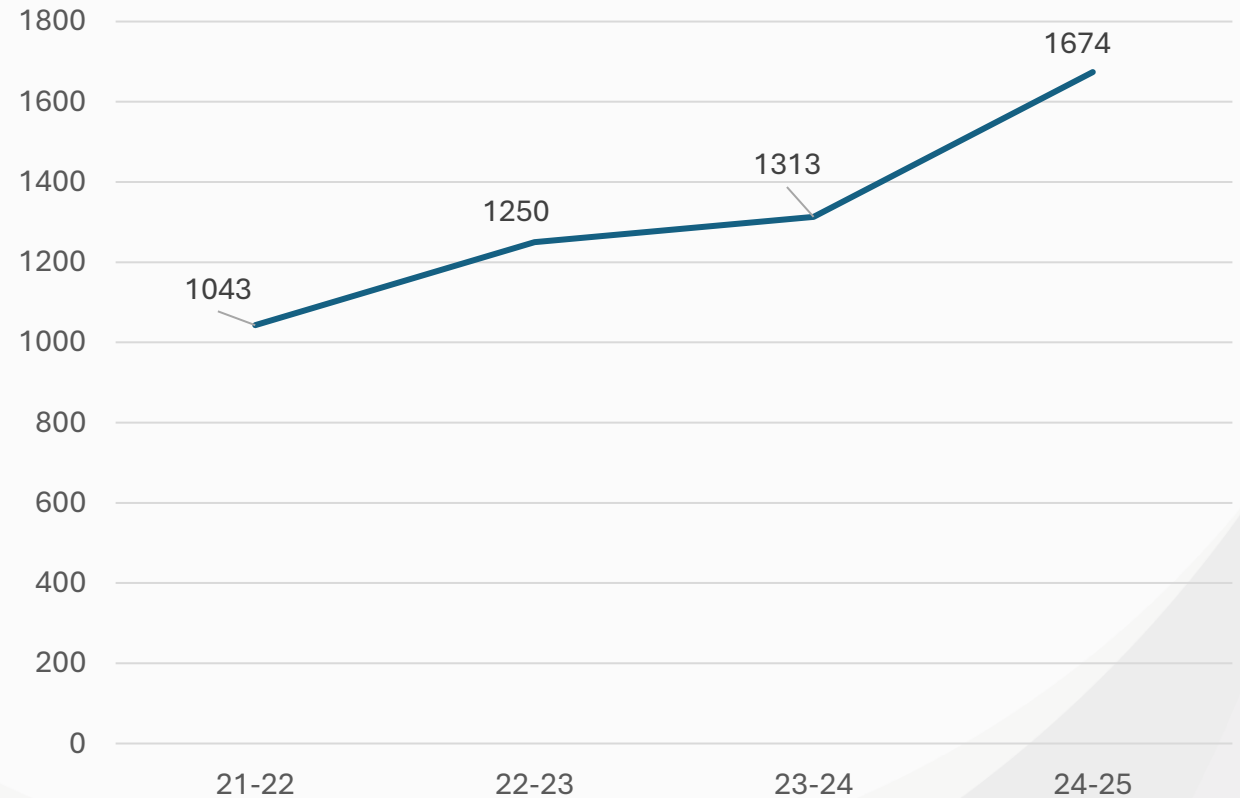
Two types of courses are considered eligible for Dual Enrollment funding:

- ✓ CTAE courses aligned with the GADOE Career Clusters and Pathways
- ✓ Core courses (English, math, science, social studies, and world language)

Dual Enrollment in DeKalb

- Dual Enrollment participation is continuing to increase
- Students in grade 10-12 are eligible to take Dual Enrollment courses
 - Funding is available for 10th – 12th grade students
 - Course restrictions - 10th graders may only take CTAE courses under Dual Enrollment by default
- Pathways for Core Course Eligibility for 10th graders
 - Option 1 – minimum qualifying scores SAT - combined score: 1200 (*Evidence-Based Reading & Writing + Math*) or ACT Composite Score: 26
 - Option 2 - Zell Miller Scholarship Eligibility 3.7 HOPE GPA and Minimum SAT/ACT scores (1200 SAT combined or 26 ACT composite)
- Certificate programs offered using Dual Enrollment state funding through DeVry University
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Programming Essentials
 - Two-year program is 100% online
- Dual Enrollment participating Colleges and Universities are determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission

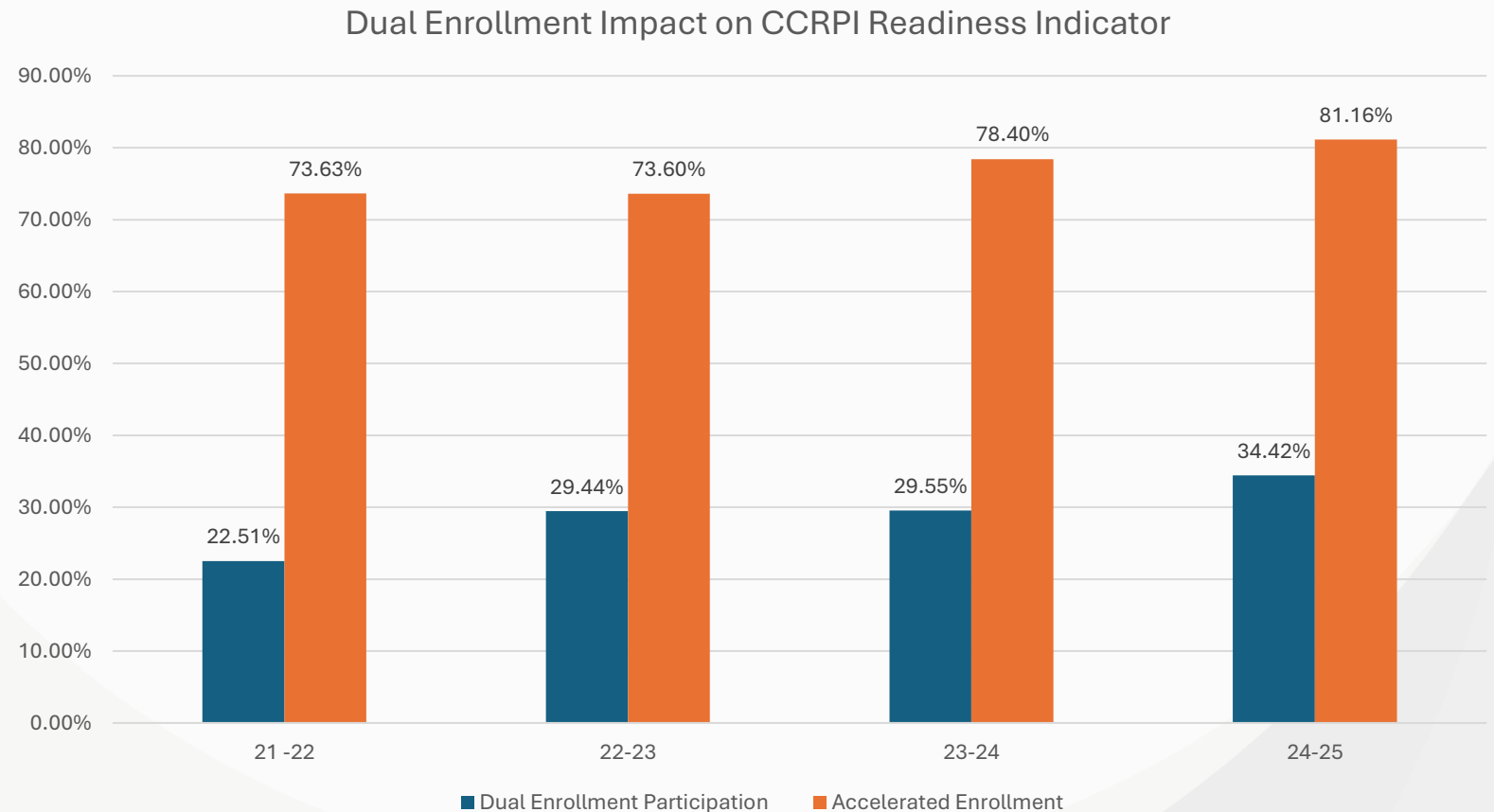
DeKalb Dual Enrollment Participation



*Self-Pay Dual Enrollment Participation Data is not included in total and is not tracked at the state level.

Strengthening CCRPI Readiness Through Dual Enrollment Participation

- A 34.42% Dual Enrollment participation rate in FY 2025 contributed to an 81.16% CCRPI High School Readiness indicator (Accelerated Enrollment) for the DeKalb County School District
- The Accelerated Enrollment Component of the Readiness Indicator includes:
 - Dual Enrollment
 - International Baccalaureate
 - Advance Placement
 - Cambridge



FY 2025 Student Awareness of Dual Enrollment in DeKalb

The BRIDGE Act - Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia's Economy – Mandates career counseling and regularly scheduled advisement to choose a focused plan of study.

8th Grade

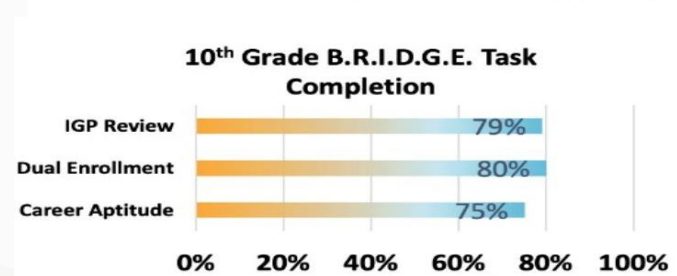
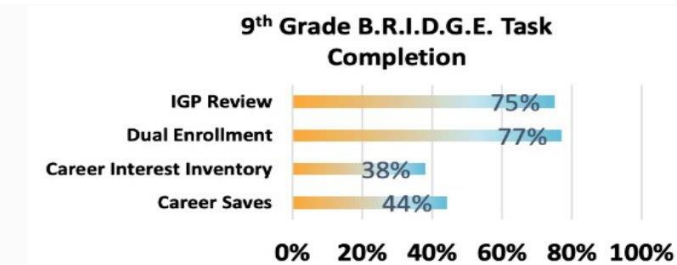
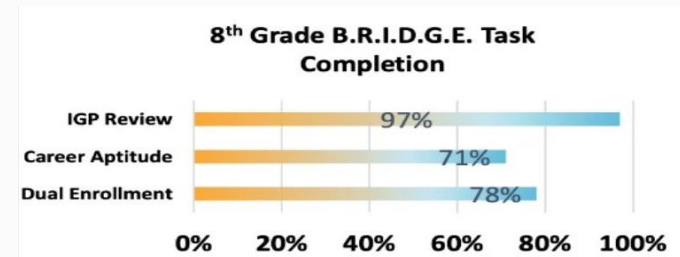
- **78% completion**
- A strong majority of students are introduced to dual enrollment early, building foundational awareness before high school course planning begins.

9th Grade

- **77% completion**
- Awareness remains consistent from 8th grade, indicating that most students continue to receive information about dual enrollment as they transition into high school.

10th Grade

- **80% completion** (highest rate)
- Dual enrollment awareness peaks in 10th grade, suggesting this is the most effective point of engagement, likely due to increased eligibility and relevance.



The Dual Achievement Program

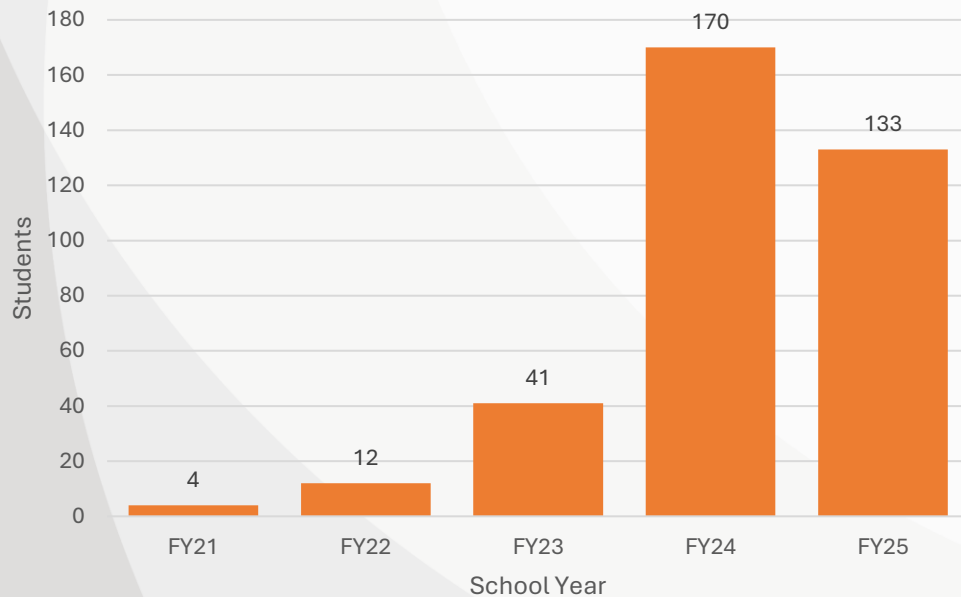
The Dual Achievement Program (DAP) offers an alternative pathway for DeKalb County students to earn a high school diploma and a **technical certificate, technical diploma, or associate degree** through **Dual Enrollment supported and funded coursework**.

DeKalb Dual Achievement institutions are Atlanta Technical College and Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

Students may take high school and college courses in person or online.

The Dual Achievement Program

DeKalb Acceptance Data For The Dual Achievement Program



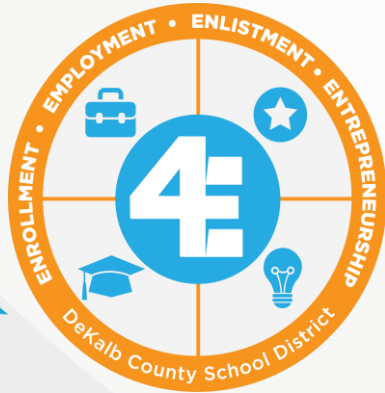
Students may select from some of the following CTAE programs:

Accounting
Air Conditioning
Automotive
Barbering
Business/Marketing
Business Technology
Carpentry
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Early Childhood Care/Education
Electrical Construction
Welding
Plumbing
Paramedicine
Medical/Nursing
Information/Computer Software

Next Steps



Career, Technical & Agricultural Education



Through expanded pathways, **strong industry partnerships**, and **real-world-learning experiences**, CTAE, Student Advancement, and School Counseling are:

-  **Increasing access to high-demand career opportunities**
-  **Improving student outcomes and graduation success**
-  **Strengthening workforce and postsecondary readiness**
-  **Connecting students to meaningful, paid learning experiences**

The progress shared today reflects a coordinated, districtwide effort – and positions DeKalb County School District to continue *leading in workforce preparation and student.*