

Career Technical Education Credential and Transition Incentive For Employment Success Act of 2023:

Brief History: A CTE Certification Reimbursement Bill was introduced during the 2022 session. It addressed high-value and standard certifications, was put into the Computer Science bill that was passed, and a pilot project with a group of districts in northeast Kansas was implemented by Washburn Tech during the past year. The bill has been revised for 2023 session.

GOAL: Almost all Kansas High School Seniors will graduate with an entry level “industry sought” credential/certification that they can get started while still in high school “with their learning supports” to use to reduce student debt while getting further “post-secondary” education or to get a livability wage entry level job as a high school graduate.

WHY DO WE NEED THIS CTE REIMBURSEMENT INCENTIVE BILL:

- Current state CTE weighted funding is based on number of CTE minutes being used by enrolled students on September 20 with a CTE concentrator being defined as a student who has taken two or more credits in an approved CTE pathway.
- Small percentage of students actually complete the associated industry sought credentials/certifications due to the cost associated with taking the certification assessments.
- Some work-based learning experiences require an acquired credential/certification like OSHA10 in order for the company to give the work-based learning student better quality on-site hands-on experiences.
- Large numbers of students do not end up getting a postsecondary credential or degree and many who do end up with large amounts of school debt.
- Unskilled jobs that pay a livability wage are getting fewer while semi-skilled jobs requiring a short-term acquisition certification or skilled jobs requiring a longer-term acquisition certification are going unfilled due to lack of qualified workers.
- Credentialed students are much less likely to end up in “costly to the taxpayer” programs like SSI, incarcerated juveniles or adults, or unemployment due to lack of desired job skills by employers.

Build Up Kansas has a job portal at www.buildupkansas.ourcareerpages.com that features construction-related job openings that are located throughout the state which will also include the huge Panasonic facility to be built at DeSoto, Kansas. The jobs may be listed on the portal by a company headquartered at a metro area community like Wichita or Kansas City but the construction jobs tend to take place at various locations across the state and therefore also need to be addressed by schools statewide. Likewise, growing more skilled tradesmen statewide will help Kansas address the shortage of desirable housing stock in many parts of the state. Panasonic will also need future workers that have certifications like multimeter, programmable logic controller, and understanding of electrical components as the battery manufacturing facility goes online with their production. Meyer Electrical Inc. out of Stafford, KS has also documented the need for multimeter, programmable logic controller, understanding of electrical components, and electrical construction out in rural areas like Stafford County on company letterhead. We need to address technical skills through various initiatives like this bill, weighted CTE funding, Senate Bill 155 (Excel in CTE), youth apprenticeships/work-based learning experiences, and registered apprenticeships.

There are many semi-skilled short-term acquisition certifications in addition to the currently-recognized CTE program certifications that would help our students successfully transition into livability wage employment. Below is a chart for 3

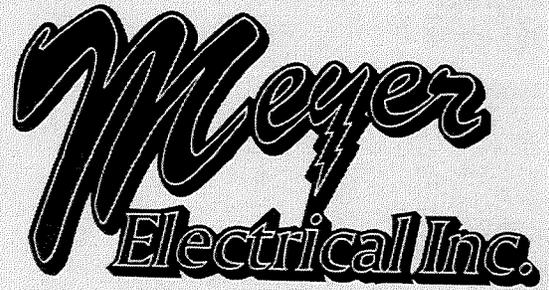
examples of semi-skilled short-term acquisition certifications that are needed statewide that hopefully this bill can encourage school districts to help their students acquire and be reimbursed for the successful student acquisition of the certifications.

Sample Labor Need Data for 3 Semi-Skilled, Short-Term Acquisition Certifications in Kansas (Commercial Driver’s License, Certified Forklift Operator, and Microsoft Word & Excel entry level positions) (January 15, 2023 listed job postings based on www.indeed.com):

Job Credential/Certification:	# of Entry Level Job Postings:	Town Locations of Job Postings:
Commercial Driver’s License:	94 jobs within 25 miles of Hutchinson	Hutchinson, South Hutchinson, Inman, St. Joe, remote
	39 jobs within 25 miles of Colby	Rexford, Colby, Park, Goodland, Oakley, Quinter, Atwood, remote
	81 jobs within 25 miles of Dodge City	Dodge City, Cimarron, Jetmore, Fort Dodge, remote
	199 jobs within 25 miles of Pittsburg	Pittsburg, Mulberry, Joplin & Lamar (MO), Galena, Frontenac, Weir, Hepler, remote
	40 jobs within 25 miles of Hillsboro	McPherson, Newton, Marion, Goessel, Hillsboro, Walton, remote
	27 jobs within 25 miles of Harper	Conway Springs, Anthony, remote
	5 jobs within 25 miles of Beloit	Beloit, remote
Certified Forklift Operator: (\$16-28/hr.)	30 jobs within 25 miles of Hutchinson	Lyons, Hutchinson, South Hutchinson, Haven, Sterling
	3 jobs within 25 miles of Colby	Colby
	15 jobs within 25 miles of Dodge City	Dodge City, Jetmore
	31 jobs within 25 miles of Pittsburg	Pittsburg, Scammon (KS), & Joplin (MO)
	15 jobs within 25 miles of Hillsboro	Moundridge, Newton, Hesston, McPherson, Hillsboro
	1 job within 25 miles of Harper	Anthony
	6 jobs within 25 miles of Beloit	Concordia, Beloit, Tipton, Dispatch
Microsoft Word and Excel Proficiency: (at least \$15-18/hour)	29 jobs within 25 miles of Hutchinson	Hutchinson, Sterling, Haven, remote
	2 jobs within 25 miles of Colby	Colby, remote
	19 jobs within 25 miles of Dodge City	Dodge City, Ford County, remote
	66 jobs within 25 miles of Pittsburg	Pittsburg, Joplin & Lamar (MO), Columbus, Galena, & remote
	30 jobs within 25 miles of Hillsboro	Moundridge, Newton, Peabody, Marion, McPherson, Hesston, remote
	1 job within 25 miles of Harper	Kingman
	2 jobs within 25 miles of Beloit	Beloit, remote

Needless to say, the chart highlights the presence of jobs needing these “industry sought” certifications even out in rural areas but the need for these certifications is even greater in metro area locations of Kansas like Wichita and Kansas City. The compiled data only cites details for 3 of the “industry sought” certifications but this bill would cover other entry level job certifications designed to enhance economic development in Kansas!

(Compiled by Clelia McCrory, ESSDACK Career Education Specialist)



609 S. Buffalo • Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5336 • Cell 620-546-4158

Dear Mike Cargil

January 12, 2023

There is currently a demand for qualified individuals in the fields of electrician and HVAC technicians. Students leaving secondary education with a certification in multimeter, programmable logic controller, understanding of general electrical components and electrical construction will be better prepared to enter the workforce or pursue post secondary training.

Our company is always interested in visiting with individuals that are capable of going directly into the field.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff L. Meyer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff L. Meyer, President
Meyer Electrical Inc
609 S. Buffalo St.
Stafford, KS 67578

January 17, 2023



Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of increased funding for high-demand Industry-Recognized Certification training for Kansas students and the adult workforce.

Trane, a business of Trane Technologies, is a world leader in creating and sustaining safe, comfortable and energy efficient environments that improve the performance of buildings and homes around the world. We recognize a significant local and national need to advance the development of the skilled workforce essential to the growth of our business and our industry as a whole.

In our industry the workforce shortage has already reached the crisis stage in Kansas and nationally as well. We share the aging/retiring workforce challenge that is common with all industries; but in our industry there are compounding factors that magnify the ever-increasing need for a skilled workforce. These compounding factors include an aging building stock in need of renewal, aging energy grid, strategic focus on energy and energy efficiency, Industry 4.0 driven cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud-based computing, data analytics and cognitive computing resulting in an ever-increasing skills gap and workforce shortage.

Trane continues to make significant investments in STEM and Career and Technical Education in Kansas and nationally, as we share mutual priorities for the development of a highly-skilled 21st century workforce with other key stakeholders throughout the country. Our Trane team has demonstrated much of this through our support for KSDE's Kansas CAN School Redesign Project with Trane's *BTU Crew*[™] educational energy programming for middle school and secondary students and our strategic partnership with the Kansas Board of Regents, Washburn Tech, WSU Tech and the NC3-National Coalition of Certification Centers for secondary/post-secondary students and the adult workforce. The Trane/NC3 Climate and Energy Control Technologies labs at Washburn Tech, WSU Tech, and DC3 are nationally recognized, state-of-art training centers providing students with Industry Recognized Certifications in high-demand, high-tech, and high-wage Climate and Energy Control Technologies (HVACR) and other energy-efficiency related career fields.

Trane relies upon and partners with universities, community and technical colleges, and high schools to develop and sustain a workforce that can help our business, industry, and supply-chain companies and contractors compete and grow regionally, nationally, and globally. We believe that increasing investment in high-demand Industry-Recognized Certification training will improve our talent pipeline and enable more business growth in Kansas.

Kansas citizens and businesses have a well-established track record of innovation, entrepreneurship and success undergirded by hard work. We are proud to be a part of that legacy and we want our state's economy to flourish for many more generations to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keven R. Ward".

Keven R. Ward
Strategic Programs Consultant
Trane, a business of Trane Technologies
Keven.Ward@Trane.com