

Needs Faced by Career and Technical Educators

- Career and technical education (CTE) teachers and other educators have specific responsibilities that include implementing students' Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), providing differentiated curricula with accommodations and modifications. This enables the educators to deliver universally designed instruction that meets the needs of all special populations and ensures that all rights of the parents and students are respected.
- Legislation such as the Every Student Succeeds Act (2015), the reauthorized Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (2004), and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act (2006) further require increased accountability, higher standards, increased rates of post-secondary success, parental involvement, and improved educator knowledge when serving special populations.
- In addition, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires that CTE teachers and other educators earn 150 professional development (CTE) credits over five years to maintain their teaching certifications.



AgriLife Extension's Response

- The Career and Technical Special Populations Training and Resource Education Center (CTSP Center), funded by the TEA and managed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, provides career and technical education (CTE) teachers and other educators with access to resources for improving their knowledge regarding the education of students with special needs.
- The primary role of the CTSP Center is to assist CTE teachers, special education teachers, administrators, AgriLife Extension agents, and parents who work with special populations in Texas.
- The CTSP Center provides multimedia online courses and learning modules that address critical issues related to serving students with special needs. Further, the center's website disseminates information through webcasts, newsletters, FAQs, an online help desk, and links to external resources.

Economic Impacts

- Average annual wages for teachers, counselors, and administrators were used to estimate the salary impact of these trained participants to sustain jobs and businesses in the state.
- The career and technical education (CTE) teachers and other educators' trainings directly supported more than 10,850 teachers, counselors, and administrators, with an estimated annual salary base of \$627 million in 2015.