EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
FIVE WAYS THAT PAY
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CIVIC ENTERPRISES
Center on Education and the Workforce

Anthony P. Carnevale
Tamara Jayasundera
Andrew R. Hanson

CERTIFICATES
EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING
INDUSTRY-BASED CERTIFICATIONS
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREES
APPRENTICESHIPS

ALONG THE WAY TO THE B.A.
There are 29 million “middle jobs” in the United States that pay $35,000 or more on average and don’t require a Bachelor’s degree.
There are five Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways that educate and train Americans for these jobs.
The United States invests roughly $1.4 trillion in human capital development each year. National spending on the five CTE pathways totals $524 billion annually.
The 29 million “middle jobs” represent one out of every five jobs in the American economy and nearly half of all American jobs that pay middle-class wages.
More than 11 million middle jobs pay $50,000 or more annually, and 4 million pay $75,000 or more.

At least some postsecondary education or training is becoming the entry-level requirement for many jobs.
The United States is ranked second internationally in baccalaureate attainment, but ranks 16th in sub-baccalaureate (CTE) attainment.
Information systems that make the connections between CTE programs and job openings transparent are the crucial reform going forward.
The five CTE pathways make further education more affordable.
Career and Technical Education: Five Ways That Pay Along the Way to the B.A. comprises a full report and an executive summary. Both can be accessed online at cew.georgetown.edu/ctefiveways.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Georgetown Public Policy Institute

Center on Education and the Workforce

3300 Whitehaven Street NW, Suite 5000
Washington, DC 20007
cew.georgetown.edu