



## THE CASE FOR ADOPTING SB 297 UNIFIED CTE-STEM INVESTMENT COUNCIL

**THE BILL** SB 297 will create a CTE-STEM Investment Council that unifies and aligns CTE and STEM governance and investment. It calls for replacing and reconstituting the current STEM Investment Council. The Council now advises STEM strategy and investment policy, an important, high-level function. There is no comparable overall advisory function for CTE, although there is a CTE Revitalization Grant Committee to advise specific CTE grant awards.

**THE VISION** This bill is about giving students a more seamless education in CTE and STEM. It will bring a more coherent and inclusive focus to Oregon's policies and investments in career-connected learning from preschool through postsecondary education. It recognizes that CTE and STEM education are complementary, that they overlap, and that they are often extensions of one another in preparing Oregon students for career pathways in high-wage, high-demand fields.

**THE ARGUMENT** High quality CTE and STEM education is essential to a well-rounded education for all students. While traditionally STEM and CTE have had separate funding sources and delivery structures, they are highly complementary and related. They share intended outcomes and applied learning approaches. Both CTE and STEM engage and motivate students through hands-on, real-world learning, encourage creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking, communication and other important skills that prepare students for success in college, careers, and civic life.



**THE URGENCY** Oregon has made great progress in building policies and investments to support CTE and STEM education. The STEM Investment Council has proved the importance of elevating career-connected learning in the Oregon economy and has created an Oregon STEM education plan. At the same time, the CTE Revitalization Grant Committee has been overseeing strong investments in CTE education. It is time to integrate CTE and STEM into a unified strategic governance framework. This will create an aligned policy and investment focus for career-connected learning and do away with unnecessary division of CTE and STEM governance and support. Employers and other advocates don't think about CTE and STEM as separate or distinct from one another. Neither do students.

**NEW COUNCIL WORK** The new CTE-STEM Council will serve in an advisory role to develop and guide a long-term strategy to improve CTE and STEM proficiency and degree attainment and set Oregon's P20 goals, strategies, policies, and investment priorities in career-connected learning. It will also review state progress in achieving career-connected learning outcomes.

**BILL SUPPORT** Oregon employers, business associations, and skilled trades that depend upon and advocate for both CTE and STEM education urge the Legislature to adopt SB 297.

**MORE DETAILS** SB 297 calls for an 11-member industry council appointed by the Governor, representing a broad cross section of high-level representatives from labor and businesses involved in high-wage, high-demand industries. The Council will be joined by an advisory committee of fourteen non-voting members. These will be drawn from among classroom and administrative educators with direct experience and expertise in CTE and STEM education at all grade levels, and from among Oregon House and Senate members with pertinent education policy expertise.

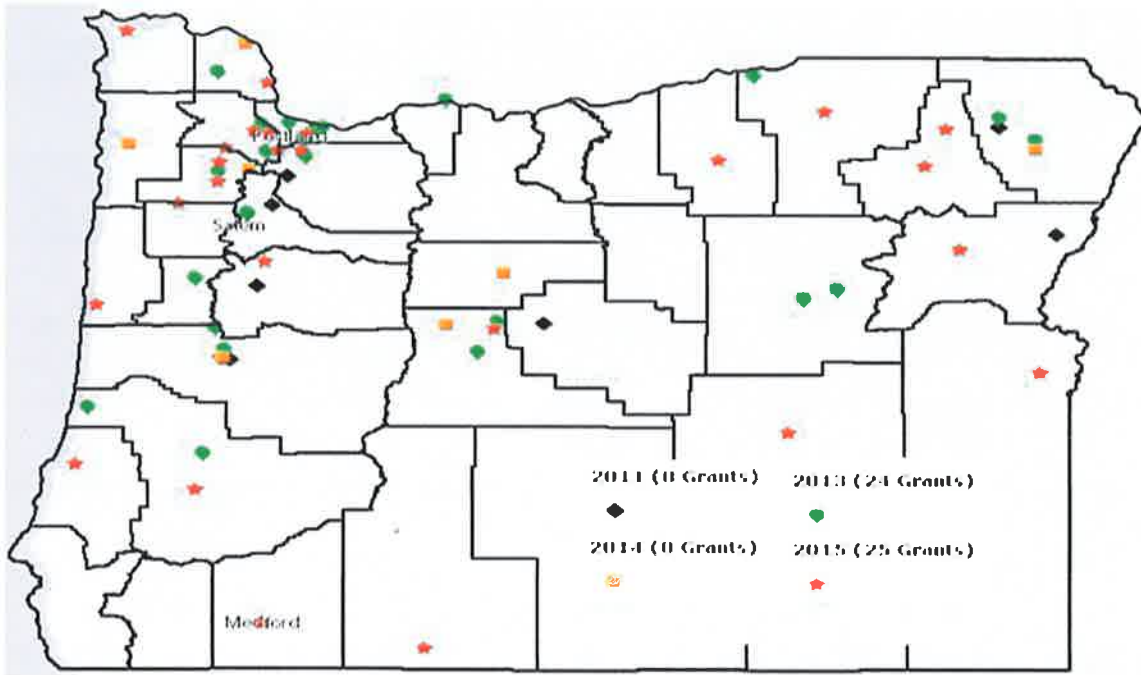
# CTE Investments Update

January 2016



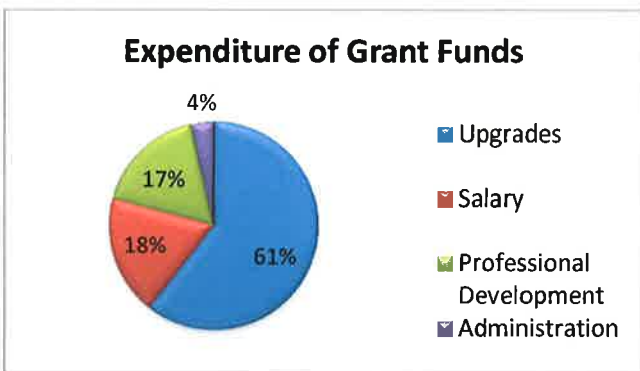
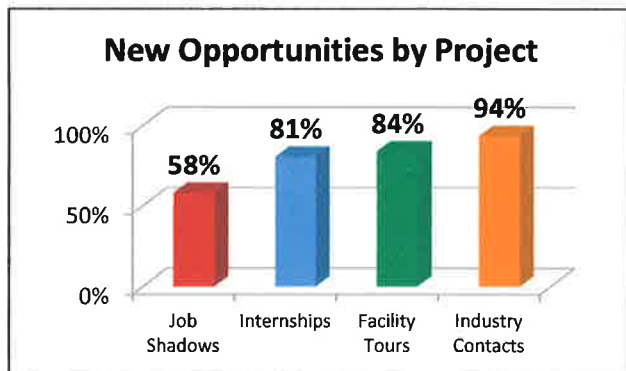
## CTE Revitalization Grant History:

During the three biennia from 2011-2017, 65 CTE Revitalization Grants have been awarded, totaling over \$21 million. With 182 applications, funding is sufficient to support just over one in three. These projects impact over 300 high schools and middle schools across Oregon.



## 2013-2015 CTE Revitalization Grant:

In the 2013-2015 CTE Revitalization Grant, there were 31 awards, averaging \$350,000, which involved 144 schools and 404 partner organizations across Oregon. Eight of the projects had a regional focus and one of those reached classrooms statewide. Over 413 classes were enhanced or created in grades K-12, serving 15,787 students.



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### **2015-2017 CTE Revitalization Grant:**

For the 2015-2017 CTE Revitalization Grant, in addition to the focus on partnerships and sustainability, there was a heightened emphasis on programs that lead to high wage and high demand occupations and on the support of historically underserved students. Over 60 reviewers representing business, industry, trades and education participated in the review process. The CTE Revitalization Grant Advisory Committee recommended funding high quality proposals that also ensured geographic and school size diversity.

#### **By the Numbers:**

- \$25.4 million in requests
- 73 applications received
- Over 60 served on review
- \$9 million awarded
- 25 applications funded

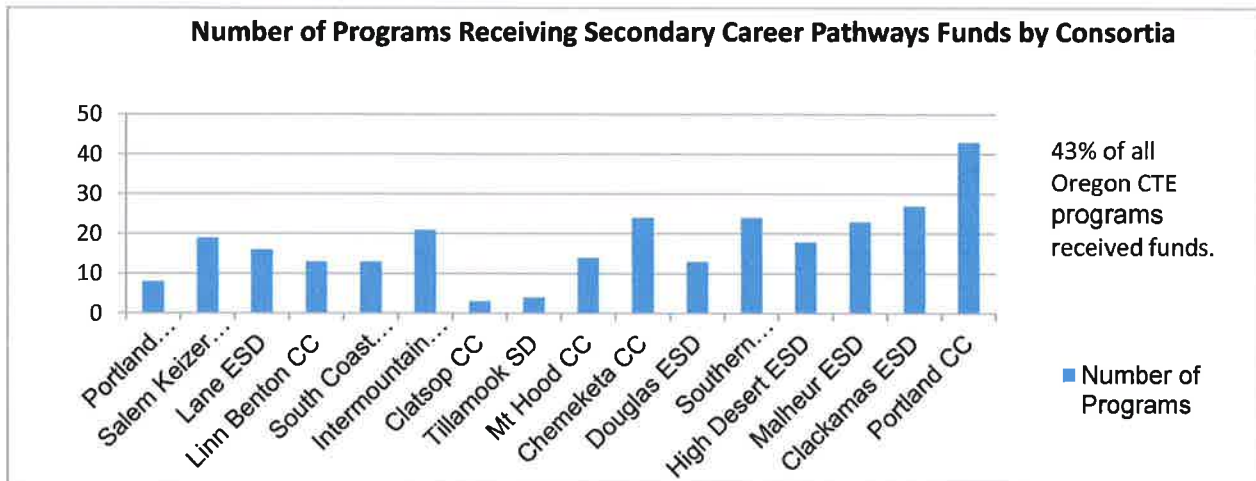
#### **Funded Applications Include:**

- 142 schools
- 277 partners
- 3 regional projects – including the development of a regional center

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### **2015-2017 Secondary Career Pathways Funding:**

During the 2015-2017 biennium, \$8.75 million was appropriated by the Oregon Legislature to encourage the continued growth of approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study that lead to high wage and high demand occupations. A portion of these funds will be awarded in each of the two school years. The intent of the legislation is to incentivize districts to provide high quality CTE Programs of Study for students across the state.



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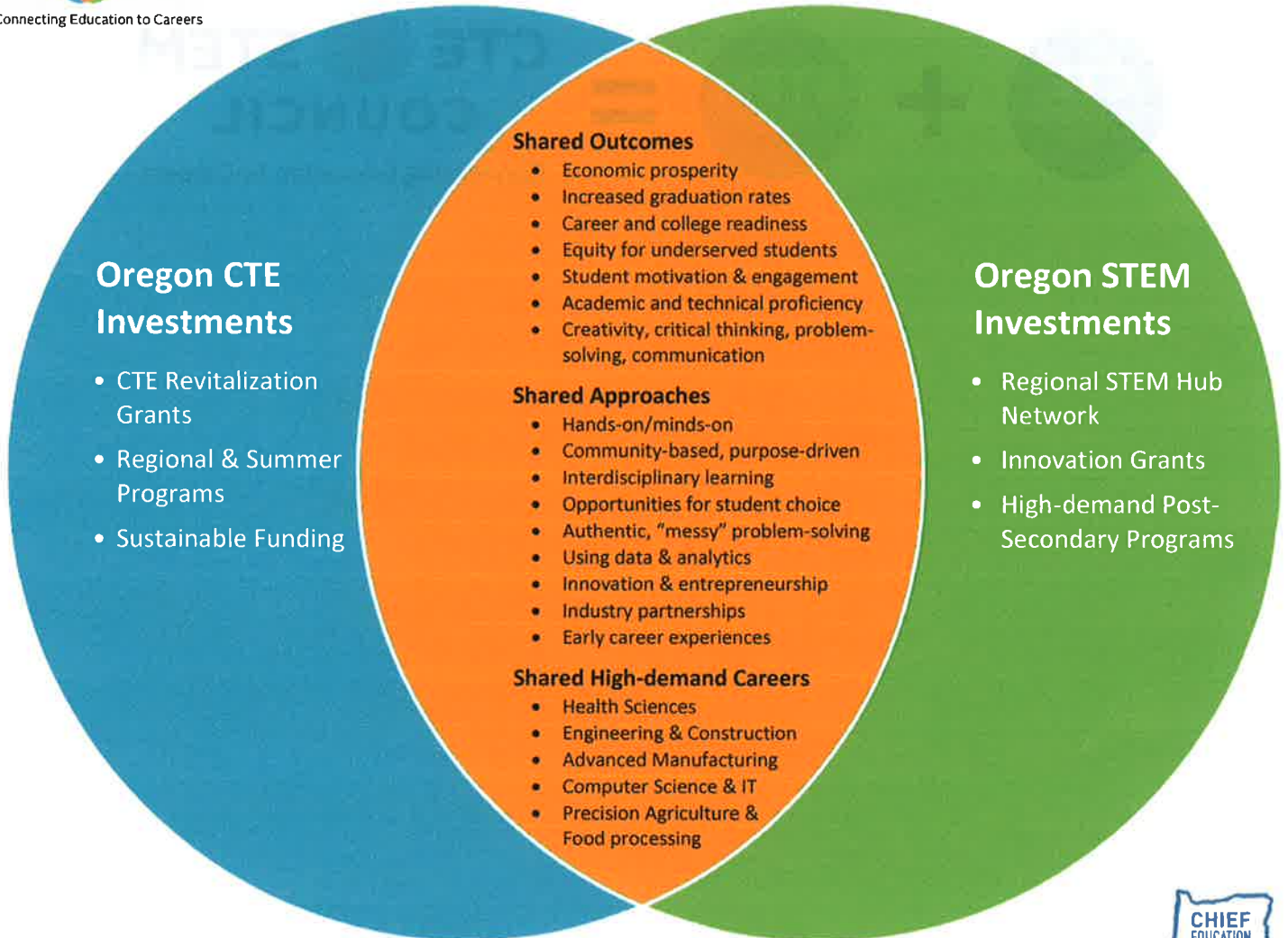
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## Connecting Education to Careers





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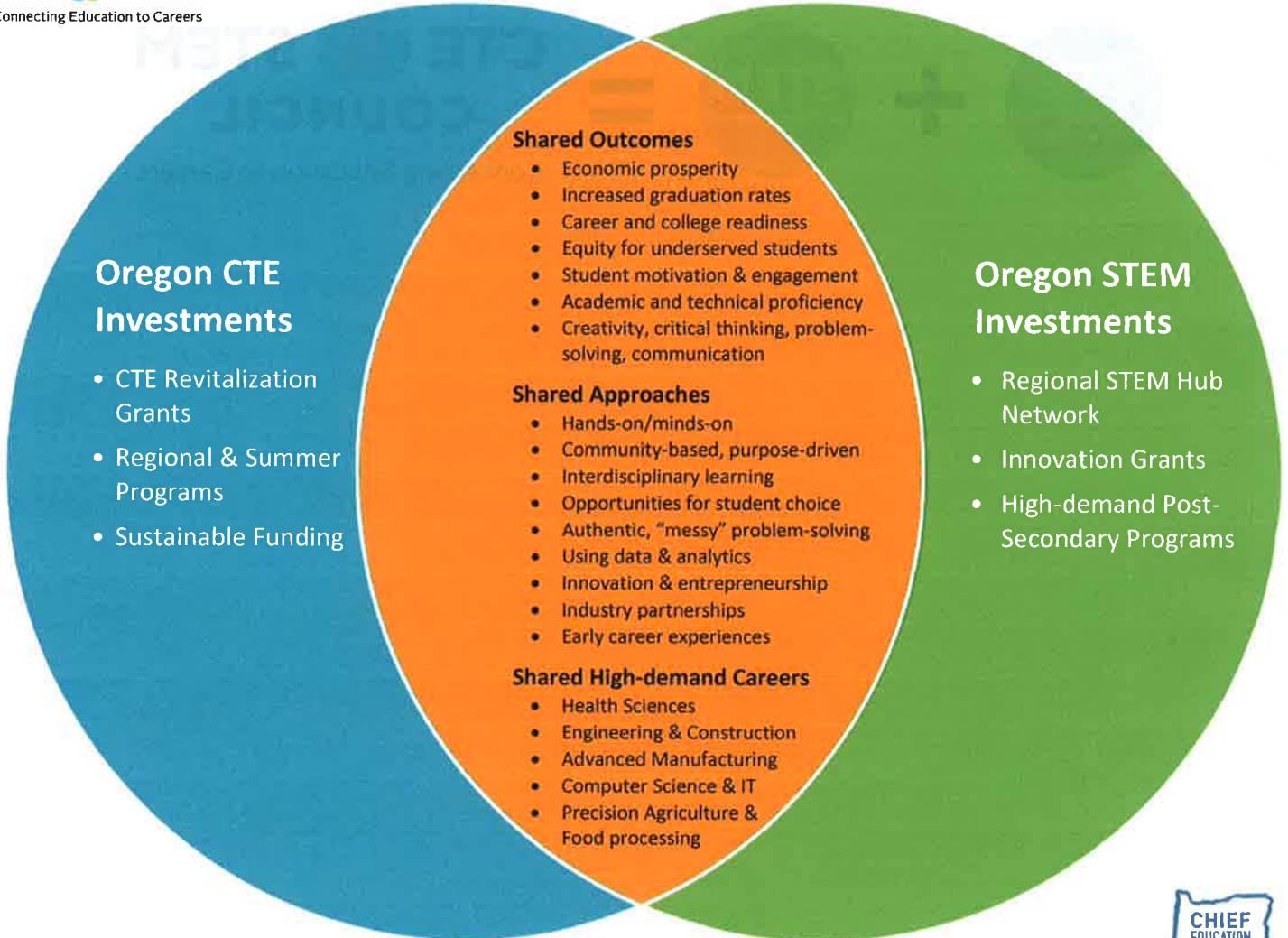


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**CTE**  **STEM**  
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## Connecting Education to Careers



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