ADVANCE CTE
State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

Designing for *Value*

November 16-18, 2026 | Atlanta, GA

Agenda

Day 1: November 16, 2026

Registration	1 - 5 p.m.	Centennial Foyer
Welcome	2:30 - 3 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
National Perspectives on Credentials of Value Panel • *Iris Palmer*, Director, Community Colleges, New America • *Emily Passias*, Deputy Executive Director, Advance CTE • *Amanda Winters*, Executive Director of Workforce, US Chamber of Commerce Foundation	3 - 4 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Cross-State Solutions: Agency Alignment & Political Challenges	4 - 5 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Reception	5 - 6:30 p.m.	Dekalb

Day 2: November 17, 2026

Registration	7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Centennial Foyer
Breakfast	7:45 - 8:45 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Day 2 Welcome	9 - 9:15 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A

Credential Outcomes: Researcher Panel • *Lindsay Dougherty*, Senior Policy Researcher, RAND • *Jay Plasman*, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University	9:15 - 10:15 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Cross-State Solutions: Evidence & Data	10:15 - 11 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Break	11 - 11:15 a.m.	
State Team Work Time: Policy Decision Framework	11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	TN: Centennial B NC: Centennial C OH: Centennial D IL: Decatur 1 GA: Decatur 2
Networking Lunch	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Employer Panel Discussion: What Employers Want—Partnering to Advance Credentials of Value • *Anissa Hamdon-Morison*, Curriculum and Training Manager, SEMI Foundation • *Joy Rich*, Manager Workforce Development - Community Relationships, Nissan North America • *Stephanie Searce*, Manager, Workforce Development, Georgia Power	1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Cross-State Solutions: Employer Engagement and Validation	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Break	3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	
State Team Work Time: Policy Decision Framework	3:45 - 4:45 p.m.	TN: Centennial B NC: Centennial C OH: Centennial D IL: Decatur 1 GA: Decatur 2
Closing & Reflections *(Dinner on your own)*	4:45 - 5 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A

Day 3: November 18, 2026

Breakfast	7:45 - 8:45 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Day 3 Welcome	9 - 9:15 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Strategies for Sustainable Systems, Partnerships, and Communication • *Brenna Bartlett*, Director, Technical Assistance, Advance CTE • *Corey Gheesling*, Associate Vice President, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association • *Kim Poast*, Principal Consultant, KP Solutions	9:15 - 10:15 a.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Break	10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	
State Team Work Time: Implementation Planning & Future Actions	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	TN: Centennial B NC: Centennial C OH: Centennial D IL: Decatur 1 GA: Decatur 2
Cross-State Solutions: Sustainability & Feedback on Implementation Plans	11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A
Closing & Next Steps	12:15 - 12:30 p.m.	Centennial Ballroom A