

THE MINNESOTA FOUNDATION FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations (MFSO) was created in 1996 by the Minnesota State Legislature to ensure the stability of and provide collaborative leadership and funding to the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) in Minnesota. The MFSO works in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the Minnesota State Colleges managing, allocating and reporting on state and federal funds that support CTSOs. The MFSO also provides guidance, leadership and support for special programming to the CTSOs.

Career and Technical Student Organizations support the rigorous academic content of career and technical education (CTE) programs. CTSOs ensure students are meeting industry skill standards and are prepared for employment. They also provide students with a comprehensive framework of leadership, personal and employability skills. CTSOs are considered an integral part of student's CTE program.

Minnesota's Career and Technical Student Organizations

BPA: Business Occupations

DECA: Marketing Education

FCCLA: Family and Consumer Sciences

FFA/PAS: Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

HOSA: Health Sciences Education

SkillsUSA: Technical and Industrial Occupations



Student Testimonials

“The State Conference was an experience I will carry with me forever, especially since it is the only competitive activity, I have ever been a part of. I am so proud of myself and the people I had the honor of working with. It has changed my life.” -CTE Student, DECA Member

“It has helped me gain confidence in my speech, my tests and my character. This conference will forever be a part of my professional career.” - CTE Student, BPA Member

Did You Know...

Minnesota's career and technical student organizations directly serve more than 25,000 student members through more than 600 high school and college chapters! Wow!

Values

The MFSO supports the career and technical student organizations efforts to provide students the necessary employability skills within career pathways to lead them successfully from education to employment through:

Business & Industry Partnerships

When CTSOs develop successful business & industry partnerships, we can better align career pathways to meet both student and industry needs.

Experiential and Applied Learning

Career and Technical Education is unique in its ability to prepare students through real-world experiences that align with specific a specific career. Hands-on and applied learning continue to be an effective educational tool of CTSOs.

Classroom Excellence

Our students deserve to have access to high-quality programs and be taught by quality instructors who have real-world knowledge in the field they are teaching.

Equity

Reaching underserved, nontraditional and special populations to provide meaningful leadership experiences within career and technical education programs is a foundation of CTSOs.

Legislative Principles

- The MFSO supports the continuation of collaborative efforts of the co-curricular career and technical student organizations.
- The MFSO supports the career and technical student organizations efforts to provide students with employability skills within career pathways to lead them successfully from education to employment.
- The MFSO supports the continuation of funding for all career and technical student organizations operating in secondary and post-secondary institutions.
- The MFSO supports applied learning environments and class sizes that provide individual teacher attention to students and foster effective teaching.
- The MFSO supports introductory and/or exploratory CTE courses that seek to familiarize students with potential career pathways.
- The MFSO recognizes the importance of funding for replacement equipment needed by career and technical education programs to meet industry standards.
- The MFSO supports the continuation of funding Carl D. Perkins V at the federal level; and the development of additional streams of revenue at the state and local level to support career and technical education programs.
- The MFSO supports equity in education ensuring underserved, nontraditional and special populations are able to have meaningful leadership experiences within career and technical education programs.