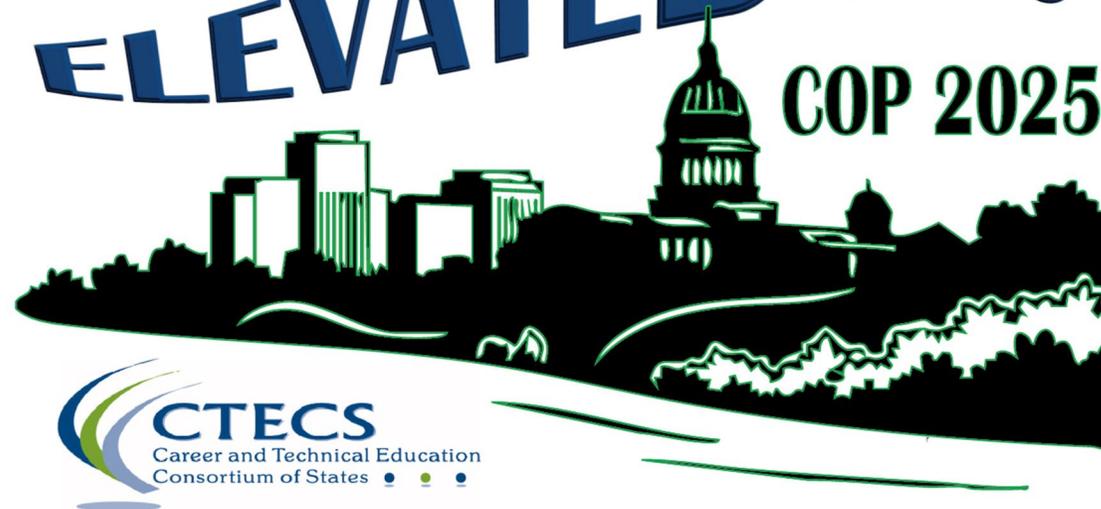September 3-5, 2025

Welcome and Introductions & Boise Perspective

COP Purpose and Goals

COP Themes Agenda and Design

Rules of Engagement

CTECS Overview

COP Purpose and Goals

Gratitude to our Loyal Members and Partners
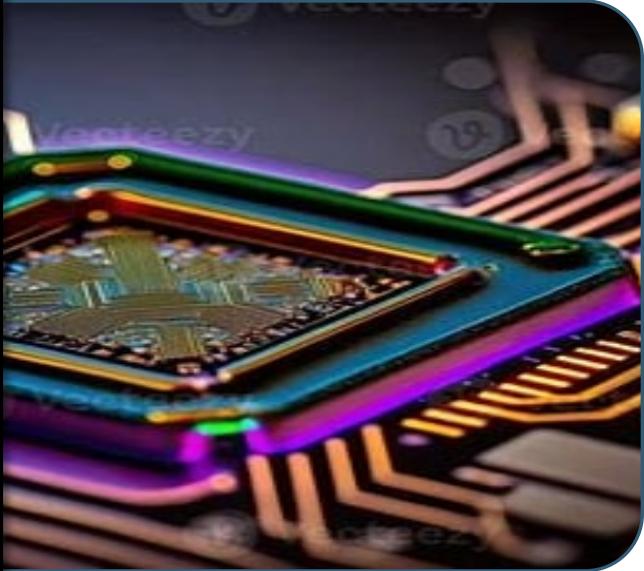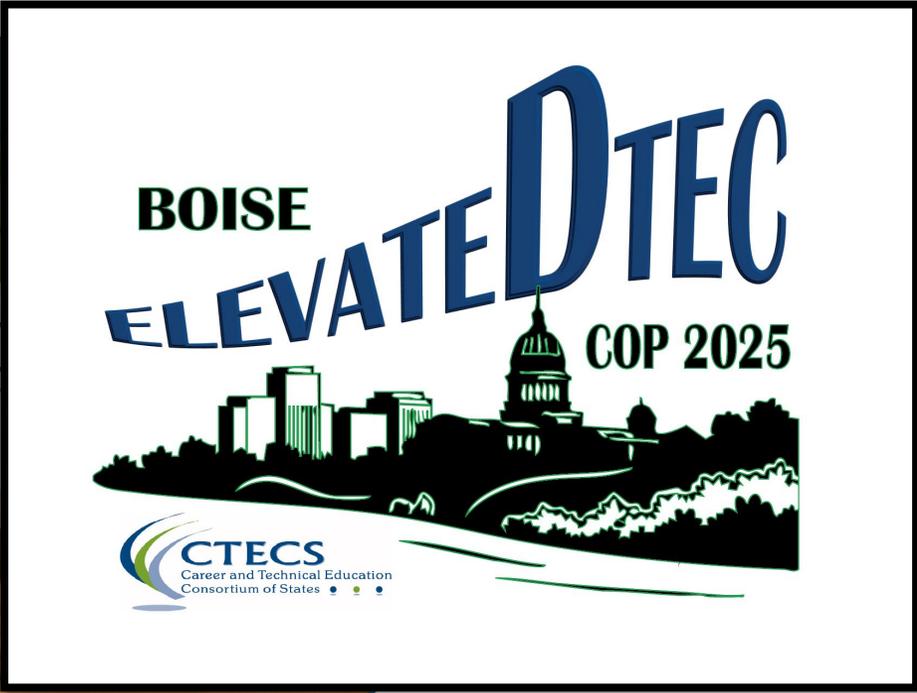
Safe and Engaging Space

Showcase Your Great Work

Articulate Your Challenges

Creates Bonds and Awareness

Results in a Dynamic & Collaborative Community

Common Purpose: Build Scalable Workforce

What's with Our Theme? *ElevateDTEC: Achieving a Chips-to-Chips Workforce at Scale*
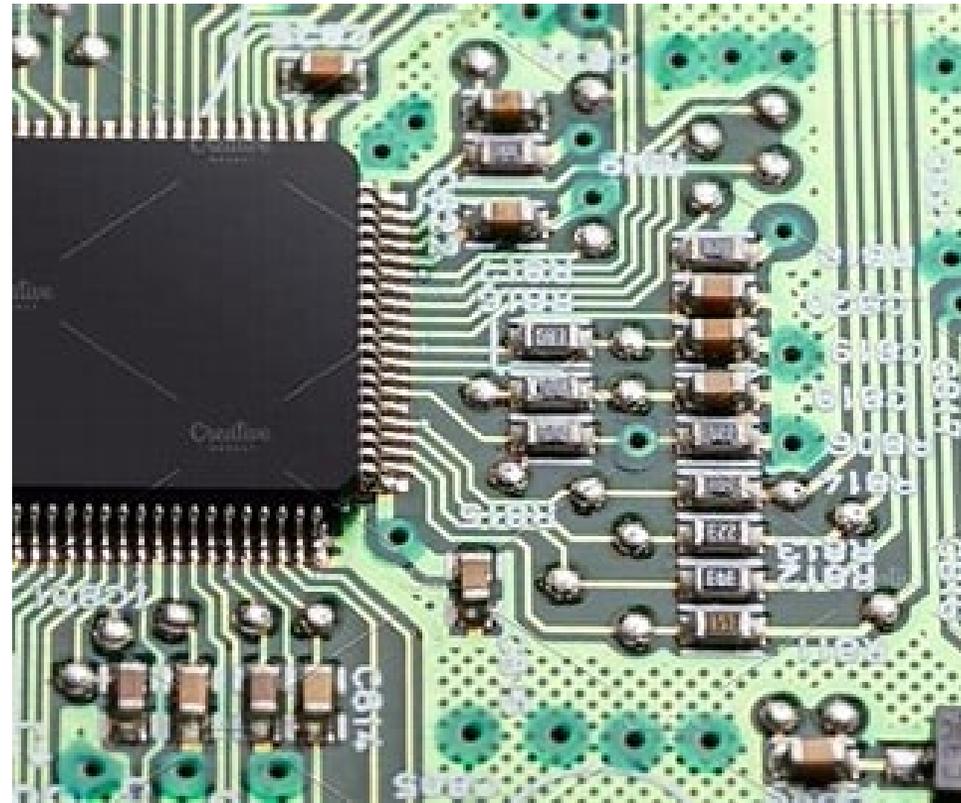
Scaling

PREPARING A GIANT WORKFORCE

IN A VERY SHORT TIME

Historic

The first time a
company has
hosted part of a
CTECS COP

COP Rules of Engagement

01
Professionalism: WRS model what we teach

02
Respect each other and the agenda
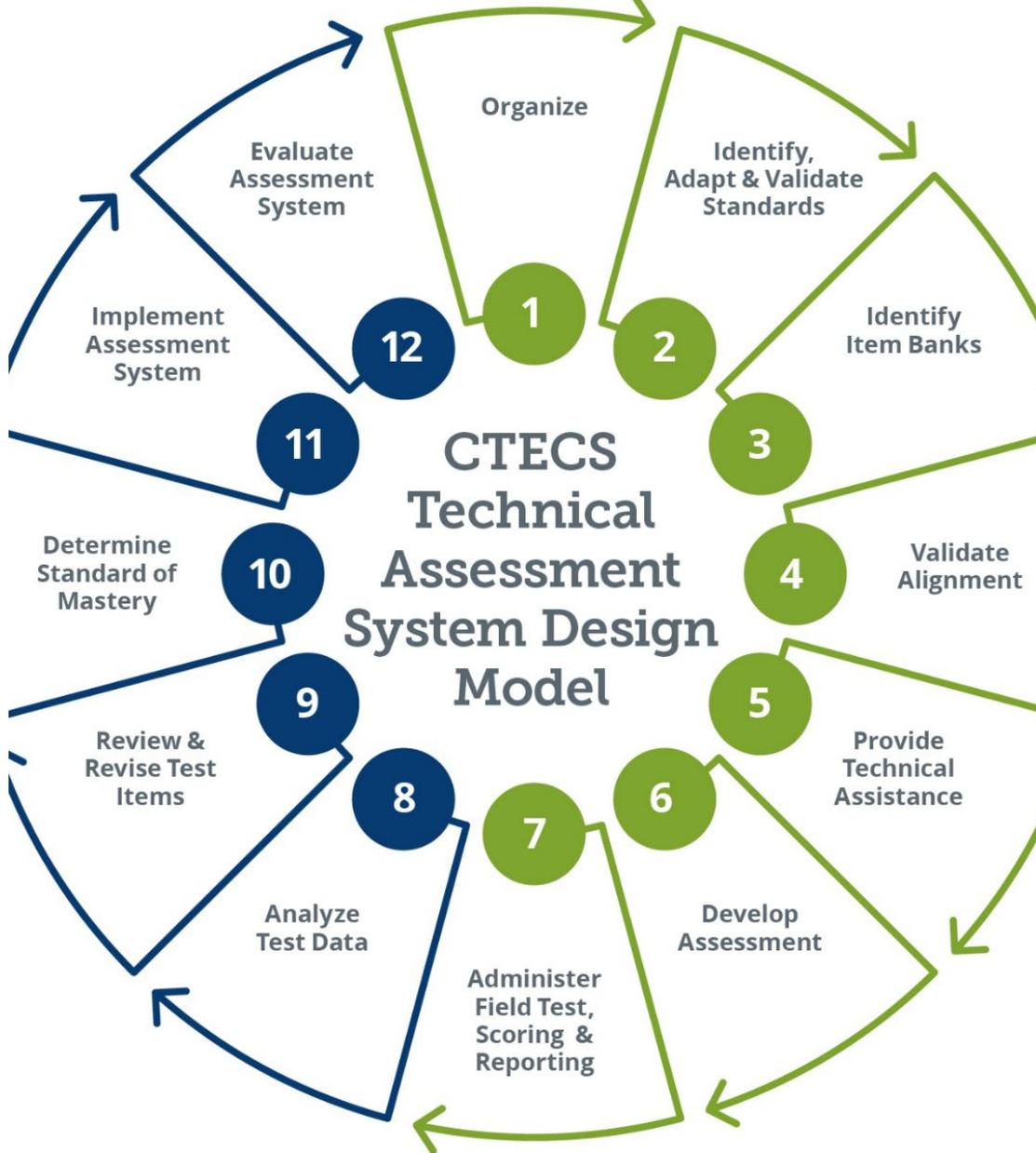
03
Fully engage

04
Disrupt: growing is often uncomfortable

Who is CTECS?

Consortium of states dedicated to CTE program improvement.

Since **1973**, to provide industry-based resources and services for the improvement of career technical education and **workforce development instruction, assessment, certification, and delivery**.

CTECS Technical Assessment System Design Model

1. Organize
2. Identify, Adapt & Validate Standards
3. Identify Item Banks
4. Validate Alignment
5. Provide Technical Assistance
6. Develop Assessment
7. Administer Field Test, Scoring & Reporting
8. Analyze Test Data
9. Review & Revise Test Items
10. Determine Standard of Mastery
11. Implement Assessment System
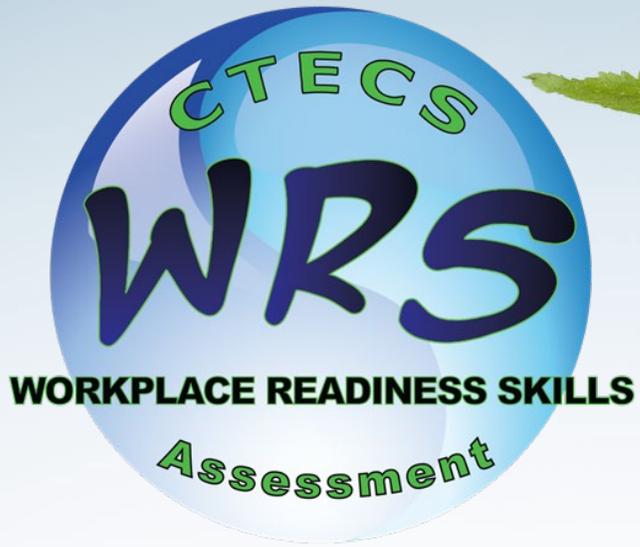12. Evaluate Assessment System

Build course standards or competency lists

Analyze existing standards and competency lists

Create custom-built, program-specific tests

Establish pass/fail scores
offer credentials for successful student completion

Collect all related data in formats easily adaptable to your needs to foster program improvement.

CTECS
GROWTH

WRS is the Glue

All talent pipeline stakeholders are together

Secondary

Post-Secondary

Over 11 Businesses

7 Local

Workforce Development

Educational Centers

Initiatives

Springboarding from the Atlanta WRS Industry meeting in April, support from these companies and institutions creates brand identity and value, helping us all achieve a scalable workforce.

Micron and NOVA	Micro-Nano Technology Center: Pasadena City College Semi-Foundation	BMW—Young Scholars	Siemens—Super Technicians

Georgia Piedmont Technical College (Pepsi, Sugar Bowl Bakery, General Mills, others)	Southern Crescent Technical College	Dominion Energy

Pivotal Time

Belief that technical and durable workplace skills have to be taught, measured, and valued together as one overall skill set.

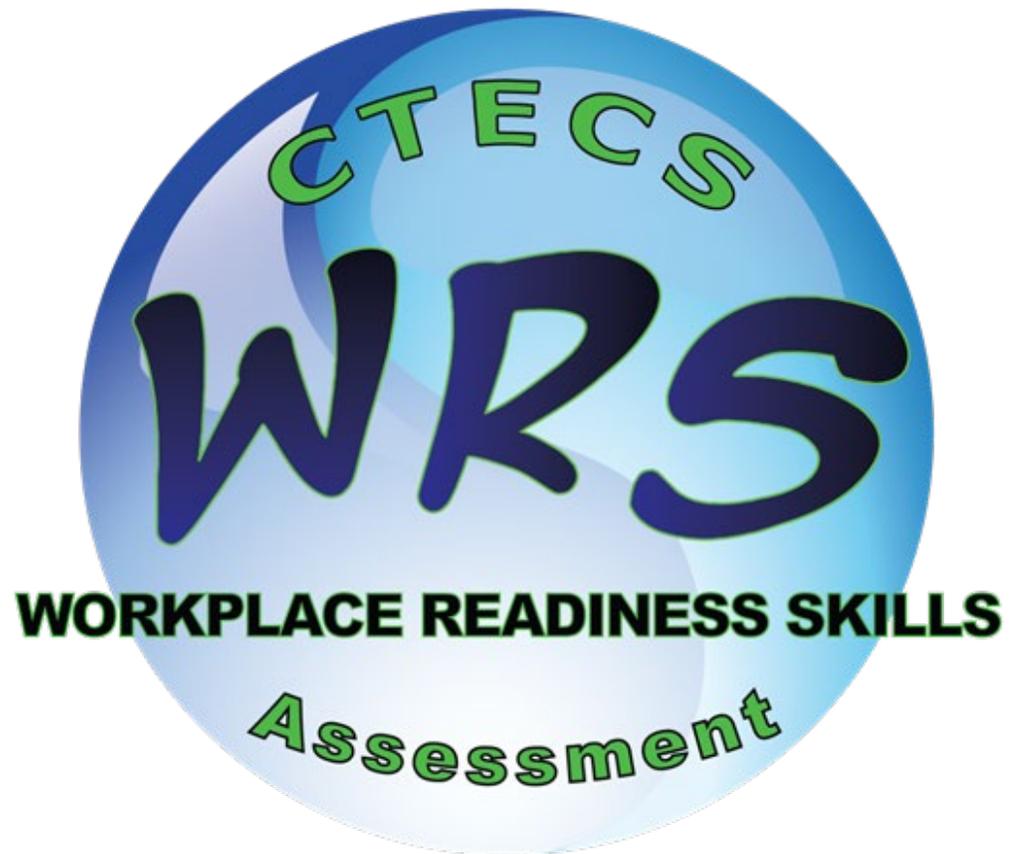Strike a balance between expansion and satisfying valued member needs

COP and Boise Perspective

Board of Trustees: Credentialing, Program Revalidations, Post-secondary and Industry Partnerships

Testing Growth

WRS & Technical Skills Pipeline

Back to the students, the school, the relationship, customer service, and program improvement

Workplace Readiness Skills (WRS) Credential

YOU GET THEM TECHNICALLY READY, AND THE WRS WILL HELP GET THEM WORKPLACE READY.

Why Teach & Assess WRS alongside Tech Training?

Forbes: Rebranding Soft Skills as Durable Skills

Discusses the shift in terminology from "soft" to "durable" to emphasize their lasting value.

Cites Deloitte Insights: 92% of companies say human capabilities matter as much or more than technical skills.

Highlights traits like empathy, trust, and connection as pivotal for career success.

What Is Tested: the WRS list

**Personal Skills and Mindsets** (e.g., Integrity, Work Ethic)

People Skills and Communication (e.g., Conflict Resolution, Teamwork)

Professional Skills (e.g., Continuous Learning and Adaptability, Efficiency and Productivity)

Digital Badge

We strongly urge you to encourage students to request and claim their badge within their free Credly account. The benefits of this go far beyond the value of the badge itself.

For more information on our digital badge, go to: Digital Badge Project – CTECS.
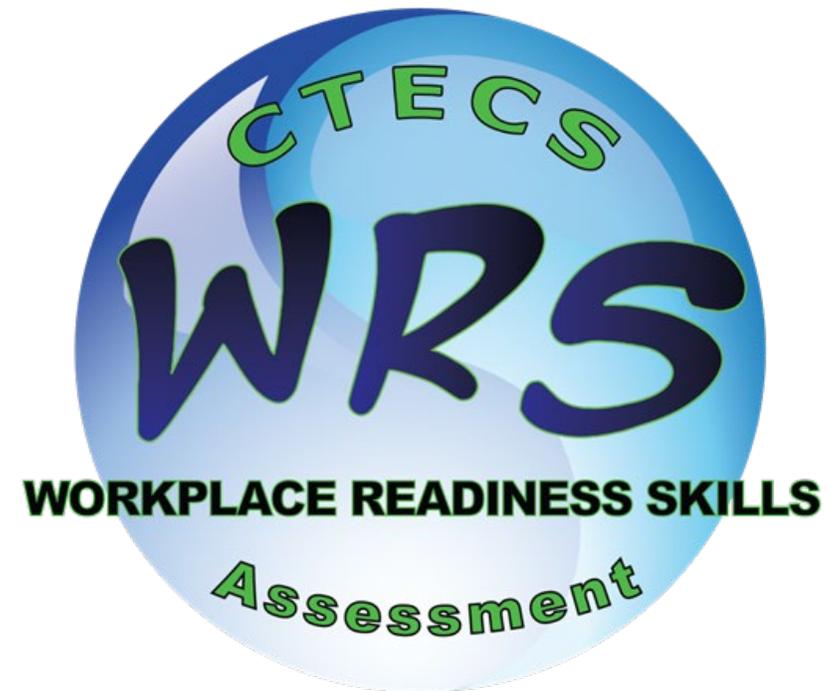
Pitsco and CTECS Partnership

E-SESS, WRS, EOP Assessment and More

THE STUDENT IN KINDERGARTEN TODAY WILL LIKELY HAVE A JOB IN THE FUTURE THAT DOESN'T YET EXIST.

We aim to ensure every student is successful – today, tomorrow, in the classroom, at home, in the community, and in life.
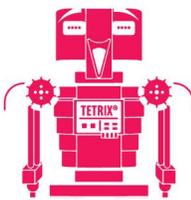
WHAT WE DO

For more than 50 years, Pitsco has offered a comprehensive range of scalable hands-on resources and curriculum. We help educators create learning environments that address all learning styles and help all students find success while solving problems, being creative, articulating ideas, and thinking with their hands.

3 MILLION+
Currently serving students annually

44%
More than **44%** of our customers have been customers for **20 years**

1,000+
different careers to explore within our curriculum

We provide curriculum professional development for an average of **800** teachers annually

3,000+
products

More than
50+ Years!
LEADING EDUCATION
serving educators

electronic assessment engine

2001

2004

2005-2008

TFI significantly expanded its services to include custom online assessments for large educational institutions and career tech student organizations, a pivotal year in broadening its impact. Key ongoing projects initiated this year include:

- **Alabama Career/Technical Education Section:** Development of the CTE Core assessment for all CTE students.
- **Alabama AIDT:** Implementation of online testing systems for industrial and maintenance assessments.
- **Career Tech Student Organizations:** Creation of a testing engine for competitive events, first used by Alabama FBLA.

Collaboration with VTECS to develop state-wide online testing systems for Career and Technology Education in South Carolina, Arizona, and beginning a beta trial in Oregon in 2008.

TFI launched with the development of CAT1, a program designed to assess and teach basic computer literacy skills, marking the beginning of TFI's commitment to advancing educational technology.

electronic assessment engine

2007

2008

2020-PRESENT

Expansion of services to include beta testing of the online testing system for Oregon Career & Technical Education.

Expansion into West Virginia with the provision of online testing systems for multiple divisions including Community and Technical College Systems and the Career Technical Education Division.

Transition to E-SESS under the Pitsco banner. This new phase emphasizes innovation in online testing experiences, enhancing functionality and accessibility for a broader user base. E-SESS continues to explore innovative solutions to elevate the educational process, ensuring robust, scalable, and effective online testing platforms.

E-sess
electronic assessment engine

electronic assessment engine