

WHEREAS; career and technical education improves academic performance, increases graduation rates, and prepares high school students for postsecondary education, career, and community success, while also serving as a foundation for Wisconsin's strong and highly educated workforce; and

WHEREAS; by providing students with core skills and meaningful experiences, career and technical education improves the quality of education in schools, engages students, and provides them with leadership opportunities in their chosen career pathways; and

WHEREAS; career and technical educators across Wisconsin cooperate with businesses and industries to stimulate the growth and vitality of local economies, meet the challenges of new and additional responsibilities on educational systems, and prepare graduates for career fields that are expected to see growth in the future; and

WHEREAS; career and technical education programs across Wisconsin utilize dual enrollment to give students an early glimpse into college life, accelerate their time to degree completion, and enable early entry into their chosen career pathways; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's 529 college savings plans, Edvest 529 and Tomorrow's Scholar, help families plan and save for postsecondary education and training, including technical college programs and apprenticeship-related instruction by providing flexible, tax-advantaged ways to invest in education and workforce success; and

WHEREAS; the state's success in advancing career and technical education is reflected in Wisconsin's Youth Apprenticeship program, which achieved another record high during the 2024-25 school year with 11,344 enrollees and 7,447 employer sponsors across more than 80 occupational pathways and 16 career clusters; and

WHEREAS; career and technical education in Wisconsin and across the nation continues to foster the spirit of productivity, innovation, and entrepreneurship that has maintained the state's leadership in the global marketplace through programs such as the Wisconsin Fast Forward expanded grant program, which helps school districts cover technical education equipment costs used for vocational training in advanced manufacturing fields; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, the Wisconsin 529 College Savings Program, and the Wisconsin Technical College System, along with community organizations and vested individuals across the state, in celebrating Wisconsin's proud history as a leader in career and technical education and in reflecting on the importance of career and technical education to the collective future of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim February 2026 as

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 21st day of January 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State