



P-Tech Programs in Colorado

COBRT, 2021

What are P-Tech Programs?



- **Innovative partnership between:**
 - a school district,
 - a community college(s),
 - and one or more local high growth industry employers.
- **Students begin in 9th grade and can go through 14th grade for a total of 6 years, to secure:**
 - a high school diploma
 - an industry-recognized associate degree,
 - and relevant workplace skills.

Graphic courtesy of CDC.gov

Key Foundational Factors to P-Tech

- **They are partnerships** in which businesses, schools, and community colleges integrate their experiences and knowledge to provide pathways to workplace success for 9th 14th year students.
- **They provide both degrees & workplace learning.**
- **They serve students of all demographics.**
- **There are no direct costs to businesses, and the State of CO provides COF/educational funds to Districts and colleges.**



Graphic courtesy of kumon.co.uk



Colorado Legislature's Role

- In 2015, the CO Legislature passed, and Gov. Hickenlooper signed bill HB15-1270 to provide a pathway for P-Tech Programs
 - schools could receive state funds for their students in the Programs
 - K-12 Pupil Count
 - and Community College Colorado Opportunity Fund dollars
- In 2017, the CO Legislature introduced amendment HB17-1194, providing schools the flexibility to operate a P-Tech school as a stand-alone or as program; and to facilitate accurate data collection and reporting by allowing P-Tech student graduation in the year in which students actually complete their requirements.

Graphic courtesy of outboulder.org

Benefits



- **Business**

- Fill hiring gaps with skilled workers
- Build/enlarge organization's community while gaining visibility
- Provide leadership and community participation opportunities for employees

- **Students**

- Secure a High School Diploma, Associate's Degree AND workplace skills
- Gain workplace-based mentorship from working professionals
- Build new and diverse relationships within communities

- **Educators**

- Create a new opportunity for increased student engagement and future workplace success
- Engage with communities to support industry and students in new ways
- Opportunity to demonstrate value of academic learning in the workplace

Colorado P-Tech Program Schools

Current P-TECHS:

- Abraham Lincoln HS (Denver Public Schools)
- Canon City HS (Canon City School Dist.)
- EC@N-STEM at Northglenn HS (Adams 12 School Dist.)
- Falcon Tech at Skyline HS (St. Vrain School Dist., Longmont)
- Greeley Central HS (Greeley-Evans School Dist. 6)
- Greeley West HS (Greeley-Evans School Dist. 6)
- Jefferson HS (Greeley-Evans School Dist. 6, Greeley)
- STEM School (Highlands Ranch)
- Power TEC (James Irwin Charter Schools, Colo Springs)
- Warrior Tech at Frederick HS (St. Vrain Dist.)
- Warrior Way High at Central HS (Mesa County School Dist., Grand Junction)

Approved to open in Fall 2021:

- Adams City HS “A14 P-Tech” (Adams County Dist. 14, Commerce City)
- Battle Mountain HS (Eagle County School Dist., Edwards)
- Eagle Valley Valley HS (Eagle County School Dist., Gypsum)
- Poudre HS (Poudre School District, Fort Collins)
- Raptor Tech at Silver Creek HS (St. Vrain Dist., Longmont)

How to Participate in P-Tech Programs



Become an Industry Partner For P-TECH Schools

- The Industry Partner – or partners if more than one company is involved at a school – represents a high-growth industry and brings their insight into the skills and qualities they seek in prospective employees and makes a commitment to foster those skills and qualities in students.
- Looking ahead to their areas of need and job growth, the Industry Partner describes the job skills and training well-qualified employees should have.
- The Industry Partner, Community College and High School partners choose the associate degrees that provide the best foundation for students to begin their careers.
- The Industry Partner also contributes to student learning through mentoring, curriculum development, site visits, paid internships and other workplace learning experiences.

Adopt Best Practice(s) of Industry Partners:

- Utilize a Skills Map that details entry-level job needs
- Get involved in work experiences that include mentoring, site visits, speakers, project days, paid internships
- Commit to put graduates "first in line" for job interviews
- Collaborate with High School and Community College partners to ensure that work experiences are integrated with high school and college coursework

Let a COBRT Workforce Education Committee member know your business is interested in participating in a P-TECH partnership: Ray Johnson (IBM), Rebecca Kersting (CAP Logistics), Becky Takeda-Tinker, (CSU System), Tim Shepard (Lockheed), Jennifer House (Jacobs).
We can help match you with other interested Industry Partners!



Thank You For Your Interest in
Colorado P-tech

Colorado Business Round Table – Workforce Education Committee