

Connecting Career Pathways • Resources Postsecondary Pathways and Partners



Helping the next generation move Texas forward

What is CCP?

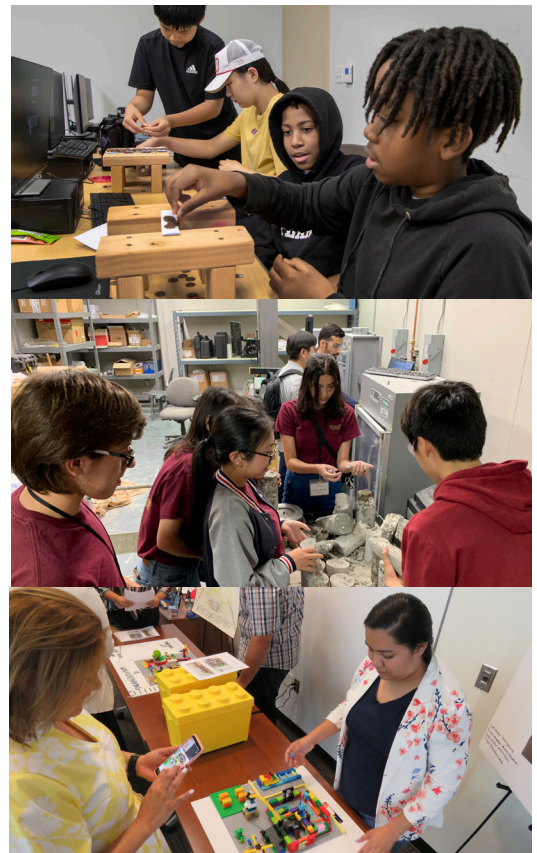
The Texas Department of Transportation Civil Rights Division (TxDOT CIV) has designed the Connecting Career Pathways (CCP) Program to introduce and integrate transportation infrastructure career awareness and exploration experiences in K-12 classrooms to connect existing curriculum and skill-building to pathways into the industry through innovative and interactive initiatives.

This document describes the breadth of postsecondary pathways that lead to transportation infrastructure careers. In this resource, you will learn about the postsecondary education and program options that lead to these careers, and some of the colleges and universities that are already engaged with TxDOT's CCP Program.

If you have any questions about the information in this resource, please contact CCP@txdot.gov.

Why does CCP matter?

Texas faces a critical workforce challenge: 94% of construction firms report staffing shortages, which can delay projects, raise costs, and impact safety statewide. CCP addresses this by building early awareness and engagement with transportation careers, creating a strong talent pipeline for the future.



For more information email: CCP@txdot.gov

Visit us online at www.txdot.gov/about/programs/civil-rights/connecting-career-pathways.html

Which postsecondary education options lead to transportation infrastructure careers?

There are alternate career and technical education (CTE) programs of study that build skills relevant to careers in transportation infrastructure (e.g., Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics; Engineering; Architecture and Construction; Agriculture; Manufacturing; and Energy). Within each program of study, students have opportunities for:

- Work-based learning experiences (e.g., practicums, extended practicums, labs),
- Career exploration,
- Career advising,
- Career preparation and training,
- Hands-on learning; and
- Opportunities to attain relevant industry-based certifications (IBCs).

Postsecondary education is any education or training that occurs after high school. Depending on a student's career aspirations, they may seek associate degrees, enroll in technical or trade school, participate in registered apprenticeships, pursue IBCs, or obtain bachelor's degrees and beyond. Each path a student may choose to follow supports their preparation for a career in transportation infrastructure.

What education or training programs lead to transportation infrastructure careers?

A broad array of educational, technical, and certification programs are available across institutions of higher education (IHEs). Students should work with their school's CTE or academic counselor to identify the postsecondary pathway that aligns with their career goals and program of study.

The level of education and training required depends on a student's chosen career path. For example, most civil engineering jobs require a bachelor's or master's degree with advanced certifications, whereas a student interested in pursuing a career in heavy equipment technology may need to obtain a certification or earn an associate degree.

The level of education and training required depends on a student's chosen career path.

How does CCP connect students to postsecondary pathways?

CCP works with a growing list of post-secondary partners to connect students to pathways that lead to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand jobs. Middle and high school students apply to attend Summer Transportation Camps (STCs) at IHEs across Texas to explore the world of transportation infrastructure.

Topics include safety, construction, logistics and supply chains, and include a variety of modes of transportation, from roadways to aviation. Students explore career interests on field trips to TxDOT, airports, transportation-related museums, and industry headquarters and build real-world skills through hands-on learning such as bridge building, coding labs, and design competitions.

Summer transportation camps help students:

- build career skills,
- design infrastructure projects,
- identify and explore career pathways, and
- showcase talents.