



Construction Ready

Construction Ready: Providing Support for Pathways in the K-12 System

Construction Ready, formerly known as the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia (CEFGA), is a 501(c)3 that promotes careers in the skilled trades industries and provides support and resources for training in these careers. Construction industry leaders saw the need for more quality training, so they created a network from within the industry along with educational partners to recruit and train more people for careers in skilled trade positions that pay well. Construction Ready is an established organization, but the pathway support they give can also be replicated by a single company or small group of companies locally.

In the K-12 system, Construction Ready provides support to pathways via:

- Providing curriculum and training resources for schools looking to start a construction class.
- Connecting students to apprenticeships and potential job opportunities.
- Hosting site visits and making employer introductions.
- Holding construction events and workshops for construction students.
- Serving as advisors for construction programs.

Getting Started

The process starts with identifying which schools in your area have pathways that align with your industry. It is important to connect with local CTAE directors, career counselors, and other school administrators involved with the career pathways. In addition to seeking out the pathways and key staff members, learn whether there are any relevant Career and Technical Student Organizations that could benefit from industry support. As a company, assess and determine the support you can give and communicate that to school contacts. Remember support does not have to be financial; it can also be time, knowledge, or equipment.

Advanced Support Stages

There are many opportunities to support a CTAE pathway that will make a difference for students, teachers, and the industry overall. Below are some additional ways Construction Ready supports local CTAE pathways, ensures things are up to industry standard and promotes work-ready graduates.

- Provide funding resources for equipment through advocacy at the national level (CONNECT Act).
- Develop toolboxes and activity kits that engage students and increase interest in the field for elementary and middle school exposure.
- Offer credential training to students such as: NCCER (National Center for Construction Education Research Core 8), OSHA 10, Power actuated tool and Forklift safety.
- Hold Career Expo with other industry employers to further connect students and teachers to construction contacts.
- Host CTSO events and competitions (SkillsUSA).

Keys to success:

- Connect with local school districts and teachers of your industry-related pathways
- Provide resources for student training experience
- Develop ways to increase exposure to students—from company tours to participating in career expos