New research at public high schools in the United States has been released by the Research Consortium on CTE Pathways that shows the majority of SkillsUSA members feel they are engaged in relevant coursework that prepares them for higher education or careers.

A study of 30,466 career and technical (CTE) students in fall 2021 indicates that SkillsUSA members are more likely to report greater clarity about their career path compared to non-members of career and technical student organizations (CTSOS).

In fact, 90% of SkillsUSA high school seniors self-reported that their career path is clearer, compared to 78% of members of other CTSOs and 74% of non-CTSO members.

These members further stated that their future is clearer because of CTE, regardless of whether or not they plan to pursue their career pathway going forward.

SkillsUSA members cited “a great deal” or “some” benefits of CTE in these categories:

- **Earning licenses and certifications**: 79% of members felt they benefitted compared to 50% of non-CTSO members.
- **Meeting potential employers**: 58% of members felt they benefitted compared to 37% of non-CTSO members.
- **Getting first-hand work experience**: 82% of members felt they benefitted compared to 63% of non-CTSO members.
- **Excited about a chosen career**: 83% of members felt they benefitted compared to 66% of non-CTSO members.
- **Clear sense of career pathway**: 82% of members felt they benefitted compared to 67% of non-CTSO members.
- **Understanding the work environment**: 88% of members felt they benefitted compared to 74% of non-CTSO members.
- **Feeling more excited about school**: 78% of members felt they benefitted compared to 65% of non-CTSO members.
- **Connecting school and the real world**: 82% of members felt they benefitted compared to 70% of non-CTSO members.

The SkillsUSA Framework illustrates how students fulfill the mission of the organization: “to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.”