

Career and Technical Education (CTE-BS)

The Council on Teacher Education does not support the recommendation for program elimination or reorganization for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) degree.

- The CTE program proactively reorganized itself in efforts to be as efficient as possible prior to the Vitalization project. With three faculty, who also teach outside of the CTE program, there is limited vitality in reorganization.
- CTE is central to the founding mission and heritage of Eastern Illinois University, as the program was first initiated in 1902.
- As a rigorous and comprehensive program, it is one of only two public university programs in the state of Illinois that focus on all three components (Business, Family and Consumer Sciences, and technology) within career and technical education.
- Education has experienced its historical downward cycle for enrollment, however, according to state and national searches, demand for CTE licensed teachers far exceeds the number of graduates and lists the degree as a rising “critical need.” Program elimination at this time restricts EIU from an extremely competitive market in career and technical education.
- The program is noted by alumni and current students as being highly student-centered, with applied hands-on learning coursework that helps undergraduates become responsible leaders in their communities.
- Faculty focus on student-faculty scholarship and applied learning experiences through professional development opportunities, grant writing, and certification trainings.
- CTE continually meets rigorous accreditation standards by NCATE and faculty hold leadership positions in professional organizations at both the state and national level.

Each of these domains relates directly to the centrality and verve of EIU’s mission, thereby compromising the integrity of the university by program deletion.