





# Empowering Counselors

## Arizona's Premier Gathering of Career & Technical Education Professionals

Each summer, CTE educators, counselors, administrators, and partners from across Arizona come together with one shared purpose: expanding meaningful pathways that lead students to economic independence and lives of choice. The Connection Conference unites the full CTE ecosystem, grounded in the belief that education is most powerful when connected to opportunity.

### Empower Your Impact

-  Strengthen the pathways that open doors for students.
-  Equip counselors to guide career exploration and success.
-  Strengthen connections between CTE and postsecondary pathways.
-  Celebrate CTE excellence while shaping a bold, unified vision for the future of Arizona's workforce.

Visit [arizonactecon.com](https://arizonactecon.com)

Transform the  
future of CTE.



### More than a dozen specific sessions including:

#### **School Counselor Breakfast and Lunch**

Network with AZ counselors to strengthen connection and fuel your impact in shaping students' career pathways.

#### **Community College Bachelor's Degrees - Year 4!**

Get the latest on high-demand bachelor's degrees at community colleges.

#### **CTE Pathways Beyond High School: Connecting Education to Opportunity**

Explore seamless pathways from high school CTE to college, credentials, and high-demand careers.

#### **CTE & Financial Literacy: Building Career & Postsecondary Success**

Discover how financial literacy and Earn to Learn fuel student confidence, reduce debt, and power long-term success.



# 2026 CONNECTION CONFERENCE

July 9-15, 2026 | Tucson, AZ



Be part of a powerful conference experience with 300+ sessions focused on best practices, cutting-edge innovations, and strategies to strengthen your professional network. From work-based learning to AI in the classroom, from empowering counselors to elevating rural CTE, you'll discover fresh ideas and ready-to-implement solutions to take your impact to the next level.

## A Purpose-Driven Experience

- > Discover the latest innovations shaping CTE
- > Connect with fellow professionals and leaders
- > Gain strategies to spark real change
- > Engage in affiliate meetings and sessions
- > Expand your learning through networking and keynotes
- > Celebrate excellence at the Awards Breakfast

## Session Topics

Workforce Alignment & WBL  
 Career Literacy Across K-12+  
 Empowering Counselors  
 Best Practices, AI, and Innovation  
 Rural CTE Best Practices  
 Marketing and Community Engagement  
 Program Development and CTE Academies  
 Postsecondary CTE Initiatives  
 Data Driven Improvement  
 High Quality Instructor Engagement  
 CTSOs: Leadership in Action  
 Standards Aligned and Hands-On Curriculum



## Opening Session Keynote Speaker:

**Dr. Kevin J. Fleming**  
*"Words, Relevance, and Relationships"*

## \$595 - Registration Rate

Registration opens March 5, 2026

## \$120 - Hotel Room + taxes/fees

Room Blocks open April 2, 2026

Westin La Paloma Resort  
 3800 E. Sunrise Dr, Tucson, AZ 85718  
 (520) 742 - 6000

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort  
 7000 N. Resort Dr, Tucson, AZ 85750  
 (520) 299-2020

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