

HOW TO COUNT CTSO ACTIVITIES TOWARDS NAFTRACK CERTIFICATION



There are many ways that activities related to Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) can count towards WBL. The following examples most closely align with the type of longer-term projects that often happen in CTSOs but other activities can include guest speakers, skills workshops, and more. Consult the [WBL Activity Definitions](#) resource for more options.

EXAMPLES



What makes a CTSO activity count as WBL is students' interactions with industry professionals. If students are completing a project independently or exclusively with educator supervision, it is not considered WBL.

Partner Engagement Project

- A CTSO project/activity that involves extended learning but is under 40 hours
- Industry professional(s) offers support through project mentoring, including supervising development through feedback and connection
- Industry professional(s) can complete the [Skills Feedback Form](#) (optional)
- Enter in the WBL Tracker

OR

Mentored Industry Project

- A CTSO project/activity that is 40 hours or more would fulfill half of the Career Preparation requirement (80 hours or two 40-hour activities)
- Industry professional(s) is actively involved in shaping the experience, from ideation & development through implementation & outcomes; engaged with students on multiple occasions
- Industry Professional(s) must complete [Future Ready Skills Assessment](#)
- Enter in NAFTrack Educators (note: in Spring 2026, this will transition to the WBL Tracker)

Questions?

Consult with your NAF Portfolio Manager.

Does a CTSO competition count as WBL?

While the preparation phase before a competition counts as WBL (if students have interactions with industry professionals), the competition itself typically does not count. While students are being judged by industry professionals, there is not a lot of interaction or feedback. Also, it is more of the culmination of the WBL activity vs. the learning itself. For example, an actual interview would not be considered WBL but mock interviews would.