**Department of Education**

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**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MEMO NO. 188-22**

**DATE:** January 25, 2022

**FROM:** Dr. David S. Eshelman, Director

Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

**SUBJECT: Virginia CTE Career Cluster and Pathway Employment and Vulnerability to COVID-19 Report**

On January 20, 2022, Dr. Terance Rephann, Regional Economist, Center for Economic and Policy Studies and Kathryn Piper Crespin, Trailblazers Project Director, University of Virginia, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service presented a report titled ["Employment Vulnerability of Virginia’s CTE Career Clusters and Pathways to COVID-19"](https://ctetrailblazers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/COVIDImpactReport_Final_2021-10-27.pdf) to the Virginia Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee. This report was prepared for the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education and examines the effect of COVID-19 on the national and Virginia economies including occupations and career choices. Results indicate that career clusters vary widely in terms of their anticipated short-term and long-term pandemic vulnerabilities. Changes in skills, technology, and labor markets will need to be addressed at the curricular and career counseling levels. In response to potential occupational vulnerabilities to future automation, CTE administrators and teachers may want to consider expanding curricular exposure to new and emerging technologies in introductory courses.

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, at cte@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2052.

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