



2023-24

# Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Research Fellow

**Caleb E. Thompson**

Doctoral Research Fellow, The Ohio State University

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Bio. Caleb Thompson is a Ph.D. student in Workforce Development with a specialization in Public Policy at The Ohio State University. His research utilizes administrative data to investigate the implementation and effectiveness of CTE policy within postsecondary education. His primary area of focus revolves around exploring the optimal alignment between work-based learning (WBL) programs and the individual goals of students, ensuring their compatibility with the needs of various industries and communities. Caleb's unique perspective stems from his background in the trades, coupled with extensive experience as both a teacher and administrator in the public education sector. This diverse expertise allows him to offer valuable insights into successful instructional techniques, the functioning of educational institutions, and fostering effective collaboration within the workforce. With his interdisciplinary approach, Caleb contributes to advancing the understanding of CTE policy and its impact on student outcomes, workforce development, and the broader community.

Project. Caleb aims to examine the changes in postsecondary participation in CTE programming among similar states after the implementation of the CLNA component under Perkins V legislation. This analysis will primarily focus on the alterations in program offerings and the corresponding participation rates at postsecondary institutions. By delving into these aspects, policymakers and practitioners can gain valuable insights into how their initiatives align with the economic needs of different regions, while also considering institutional interests and fostering student development. This comprehensive understanding will guide them in making informed decisions and ensuring that their actions contribute effectively to the symbiotic relationship between economic demands, institutional priorities, and student growth.



Research Sponsor: Jay Plasman, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Workforce Development & Education  
College of Education & Human Ecology  
The Ohio State University

## The Program:

Part of ECMC Foundation's Postsecondary CTE Leadership Collaborative

Fellows will be part of a community that participates in two national research training institutes, research methods webinars, works with CTE research mentors, and conducts postsecondary CTE research. "We have designed this CTE Fellows program to provide scholars with the unique opportunity to be part of a community and a formal curriculum to develop their research skills while working toward improving the field of CTE." — James Bartlett II, Ph.D., PI

#ECMCFellows

## For more information contact:



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