

**Students:  
Join the club...  
there's a CTSO for  
you!**

**LEARN today, EARN tomorrow, SHAPE your future NOW** [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com)

## Students: Join the Club!

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are career-based, competitive, co-curricular clubs found in Manatee County high schools, Manatee Technical Institute (MTI), as well as participating middle and elementary schools. Local CTSO chapters work under the leadership of skilled advisors, teachers in Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes. These talented teachers and their CTSOs are under the leadership of the Adult, Career and Technical Education Department (ACT) in Manatee County. ACT teachers and staff are committed to giving students the skills and opportunities they will need to succeed in their chosen career pathways.

Each fall, the ACT Department hosts an action-packed CTSO Leadership Rally for current and prospective CTSO members. This rally is the kickoff event of the year and a terrific opportunity for students to experience dynamic teambuilding events, brainstorming sessions, leadership challenges, and motivational speakers. For active CTSO members, the event is a great way to meet up with fellow members and competitors from other schools. For students who may not be sure about joining a CTSO, it's an exciting preview and can encourage students' participation and connection to their school.

Throughout the year, CTSO members work together on improving their skills, planning and implementing community service projects, and competing against other chapters from the region, state, and nation. So as a student, why should you join the club?



Students from all over the District were having a blast at the last CTSO Leadership Rally.

1. To make new friends who share your same interests.
2. To gain skills, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, and leadership positions to add to your college applications.
3. To gain skills and build a resume that will help you compete for jobs in a tough workforce.
4. To travel to other cities across the United States to compete in competitive events.
5. To give back to your community and gain community service hours.
6. To have fun while learning new things!

Competing for entry level jobs requires students to make an extra effort to link classroom education with a future career. Whether students are heading directly into the workforce after graduation, enrolling in a technical center for work-ready skills, or attending college, The ACT Department, teachers, and CTSO's provide student-centered educational opportunities that develop skills, talents, and leadership qualities that will last a lifetime.

So students, when you begin the new school year in the fall, it's time to think about your future and join the club!

## Career and Technical Student Organizations in Manatee County

The following CTSOs serve Manatee County students:



**FBA—Future Builders of America:**

- Offered at Manatee, Palmetto, and Southeast High Schools as well as Manatee Technical Institute.
- [www.futurebuildersofamerica.org](http://www.futurebuildersofamerica.org)



**FPSA—Florida Public Service Association:**

- Offered at Manatee Technical Institute.
- [www.fpsainc.org](http://www.fpsainc.org)



**FBLA/PBL—Future Business Leaders of America/Phi Beta Lambda:**

- Offered at Bayshore, Braden River, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, Palmetto, Horizons, and Southeast High Schools as well as Buffalo Creek, Haile, and Lincoln Middle Schools.
- [www.fifbla-pbl.com](http://www.fifbla-pbl.com) and [www.fbla-pbl.org](http://www.fbla-pbl.org)



**SkillsUSA—Ensuring America has a skilled workforce:**

- Offered at Manatee Technical Institute (National Champions seven years' running!) with chapters at Bayshore, Braden River, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, Palmetto, and Southeast High Schools
- [www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org)



**FCCLA—Family, Career and Community Leaders of America:**

- Offered at Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, Palmetto, and Southeast High Schools as well as Braden River and Sugg Middle Schools.
- [www.fifccla.org](http://www.fifccla.org) and [www.fcclainc.org](http://www.fcclainc.org)



**TSA—Technology Student Association:**

- Offered at Bayshore, Braden River, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, and Southeast High Schools as well as Braden River, Buffalo Creek, Haile, Hartlee, Johnson, Lincoln, Nolan, and Sugg Middle Schools. Sparking interest early on in the elementary schools include Abel, Braden River, Freedom, McNeal, and Prine.
- [www.floridatsa.com](http://www.floridatsa.com) and [www.tsaweb.org](http://www.tsaweb.org)



**FFA—National FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America):**

- Offered at Braden River, Lakewood Ranch, Palmetto, and Southeast High Schools as well as Buffalo Creek, Haile, Lincoln, and Nolan Middle Schools.
- [www.fffa.org](http://www.fffa.org) and [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)



**CECF—Career Education Clubs of Florida**

- Offered at Lakewood Ranch and Palmetto High Schools.
- [www.cecf.org](http://www.cecf.org)



**HOSA—Health Occupations Students of America:**

- Offered at Bayshore, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, and Palmetto High Schools as well as King and Nolan Middle Schools and Manatee Technical Institute.
- [www.flhosa.org](http://www.flhosa.org) and [www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org)

# PARENT CORNER

- ✓ Discussion starter: Talk to your middle and high school child about the importance of extracurricular activities, and encourage them to join a CTSO that aligns with their interests.
- ✓ Together with your child, visit the websites of each CTSO listed to learn all you can about which CTSO is the best match for your child.
- ✓ "Our Career and Technical Student Associations have achieved amazing national and international recognitions. Behind those successes are some of the finest teachers and dedicated students around. Parents can feel confident that their child is gaining a positive experience when they join a CTSO." Suzette Ventrone, ACT Department. For further information contact Suzette at 941-708-8770 ext. 2234.

## FCAT reading comprehension QUESTION

★ What are Career and Technical Student Organizations?

Answer: CTSOs are career-based, competitive clubs found in Manatee County high schools, Manatee Technical Institute (MTI), as well as participating middle and elementary schools. Local CTSO chapters work under the leadership of skilled advisors, teachers in Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes.

## What's on the WEB?

See all of the CTSO websites listed above.

**EdVantage** Inspiring Our Students to Learn, Dream and Achieve. **EdVantage Strategic Objective #2: Each student will articulate personal goals, create plans to achieve those goals, and exhibit progress toward their attainment.**



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