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Agenda



- State of the Program
- Program Specifics
 - Annual Timeline
 - Exams
 - COA
 - Competition
 - Special Programs
- CTE Community in Mobilize

NRAEF ProStart Team



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State of the Program

Program Partners

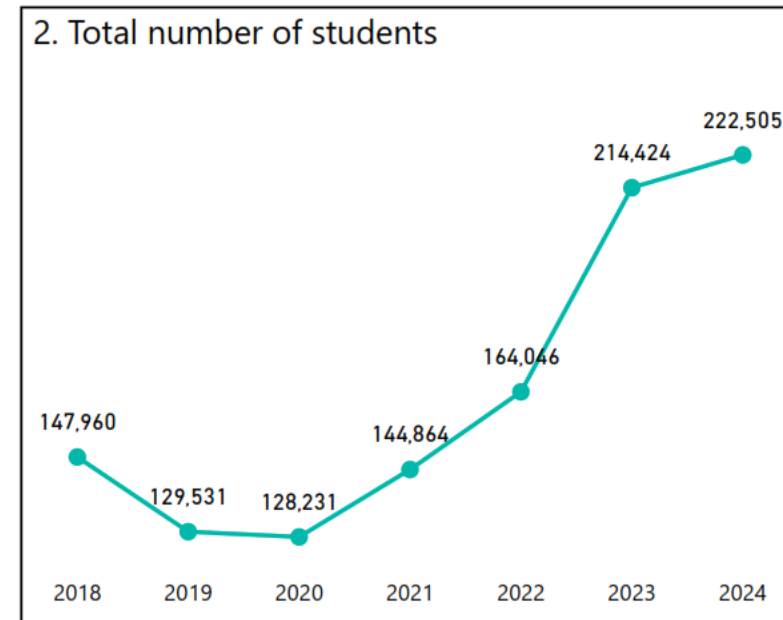
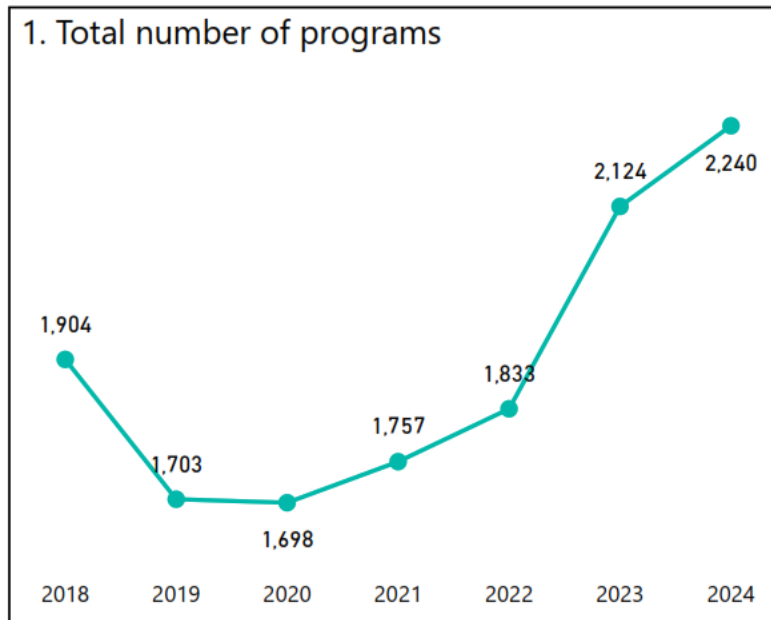


- National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation/National Restaurant Association
- State Restaurant Associations
- Industry

State of the Program



- 220,000 students in over 2,200 programs nationwide, with 2,500 educators nationwide, DC, Puerto Rico and the territory of Guam*



* Data from December 2024

State of the Program



- 37% of all ProStart schools receive Title 1 funding
- School breakdown
 - 70% traditional high schools
 - 23.6% career and technical education centers, where students travel to take their ProStart courses
 - 4.2% are non-traditional settings, including Departments of Corrections

* Data from December 2024

State of the Program



- The majority of students earn a ServSafe Food Handler certification, an industry recognized credential
- Students entering post-secondary can earn their Certificate of Achievement for up to 18 college credits at various institutions around the country; this entails:
 - Passing two exams
 - Earning 400 hours industry work experience
 - Mastering 52 of 75 core competencies comprised of hard and soft skills



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Program Specifics

ProStart Annual Program Timeline



ProStart Program Timeline	
August – December	ProStart Annual Data Collection and Program Confirmation
January	Educator Grants for Professional Development Application
January – March	Rachael Ray ProStart Grow Grant Application
January – May	Competition Season (State Competitions – January – March) 2023 NPSI Rules Distribution September 2022 2023 National ProStart Invitational (NPSI) May 2 – 4, 2023 Washington Hilton, Washington, DC
March – June	ProStart Exam/COA Season
June – July	ProStart Educator Professional Development <i>Registration opens in March</i>
July	Educator of Excellence Awards Program <i>Coordinator Nominations open in February</i>
Year Round	CTE/ProStart Educators Community Monthly Webinars State-sponsored Educator Professional Development State-sponsored Student Boot Camps and Training
Ad-hoc	ProStart Participation and Perceptions Survey <i>Every 3-5 years (2022 in progress)</i>

Annual Data Collection (Purpose & Flow)



- Confirm official ProStart schools for 2025 – 2026 school year
- Gather data about ProStart programs nationwide
- Inform funding for the 2026 – 2027 school year via ProStart Program Support Grant Funds

Annual Data Collection (Purpose & Flow)



- Coordinators confirm all the schools in their state
- Coordinators will open the survey for their Educator Points of Contact (POCs) via email
 - Email includes a link to data site and the username a POC should use to access it
- Educators complete their school surveys

Implications for Failure to Complete



- Less funding for SRA from ProStart Program Support Grant funds next year
- Lack of access to Certificate of Achievement for students
- Schools cannot compete at the National ProStart Invitational
- Lack of access to NRAEF resources for teaching ProStart

- Editions & Levels

- Foundations of Restaurant Management & Culinary Arts (FRMCA) Exams
 - Edition 1, 2 & 3; Levels 1 & 2
- Offered in print and online

- Exam Ordering/Scheduling

- All exam scheduling takes place on ChooseRestaurants.org regardless of Edition, Level, or exam format
- Print exam answer keys and online exam vouchers can be ordered [here](#) for \$19 each
 - Cost covers administration, grading, record maintenance
- *NOTE:* It is crucial that Educators schedule their exams at the correct school. If an educator does not see their school listed in the dropdown menu, please reach out to ProStart@nraef.org immediately.

- **Exam Scoring**

- If using paper exams, be sure you send back the completed Exam Information Form. Without this, exams cannot be graded.
- Exam scoring timelines will vary. Please allow 2-4 weeks for scores to be returned.
- Educators receive notification when the scores for their exams are available, so not receiving notice within a reasonable amount of time (2 - 3 weeks during testing season) should tip off an educator that there may be a snag in the system.

- **Accessing Scores**

- Scores can be accessed on ChooseRestaurants.org either by the Exam Session Number, Date Range, or specific Examinee Name
- Issues accessing scores should be sent to ProStart@nraef.org

- **Exam Forms & Help Documents**

- Found [here](#) on ChooseRestaurants.org; *Educator-only access*
- Resources like: Scheduling exams, administering print/online exams, ordering & returning answer sheets & materials, viewing exam scores

Certificate of Achievement (COA)



- **Exams**

- Students must pass FRMCA exams for Levels 1 and 2

- **Competencies**

- Students must verify they have mastery of 52 of the 75 competencies (70%)

- **Work Hours**

- To attain a COA, students must show proof of work or involvement in the restaurant, foodservice, and/or hospitality industries totaling 400 hours
- Students may meet the requirement by participating in either paid foodservice jobs or “alternative” hospitality-related jobs or activities. Jobs may be paid or unpaid (due to the nature of the task)

- **Expiration**

- Students are able to enter valid work hours from up to one year prior to and three years following the date of the Level 1 exam. For example:
 - John Doe passes his Level 1 exam on 5/5/2022.
 - John Doe can go back in his records and enter work hours he did from 5/5/2021 and forward.
 - His COA application will expire on 5/5/2025.

Certificate of Achievement (COA)

COA Roles and Responsibilities		
Student Responsibilities	Educator Responsibilities	Coordinator Responsibilities
<p>Register on ChooseRestaurants.org.</p> <p>Track and enter hours and competencies.</p> <p>Give supporting documentation to educator for review.</p>	<p>Register on the website.</p> <p>Review and approve student documentation of work hours and competencies.</p> <p>Send supporting documentation to Coordinator within agreed upon time frame.</p>	<p>Must be registered as a Coordinator.</p> <p>Determine method for educators to submit documentation.</p> <p>Approve COA applications.</p> <p>Notify NRAEF of any issues/technical problems.</p>

Competition



- Showcase of ProStart student talent, innovation, and entrepreneurship
- Culinary teams prepare a 3 course menu - appetizer, entrée, and dessert - in 60 minutes without running water or electricity
- Management teams create and present an original restaurant concept that integrates operations, marketing, look and feel, and menu recipes and costing
- State PSIs
 - Team numbers vary by number of ProStart program schools in the State
 - Many states utilize exact or slightly modified NPSI rules (e.g. no alcohol, logistics, etc.)
 - State Coordinators can download NRAEF's national scoring rubrics from the Hub
- NPSI
 - States send winning teams from management and culinary
 - Approximately 400 students compete annually
 - Winning teams have access to \$200,000 in post-secondary scholarships from the NRAEF and other industry organizations

Additional Programs



- Educator Grants for Professional Development
- Rachael Ray ProStart Grow Grants
- Educator Professional Development
- ProStart Educator Fellows
- CTE (ProStart) Community for Educators in Mobilize



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**CTE (ProStart) Community in
Mobilize**

Welcome to Mobilize



What is Mobilize?

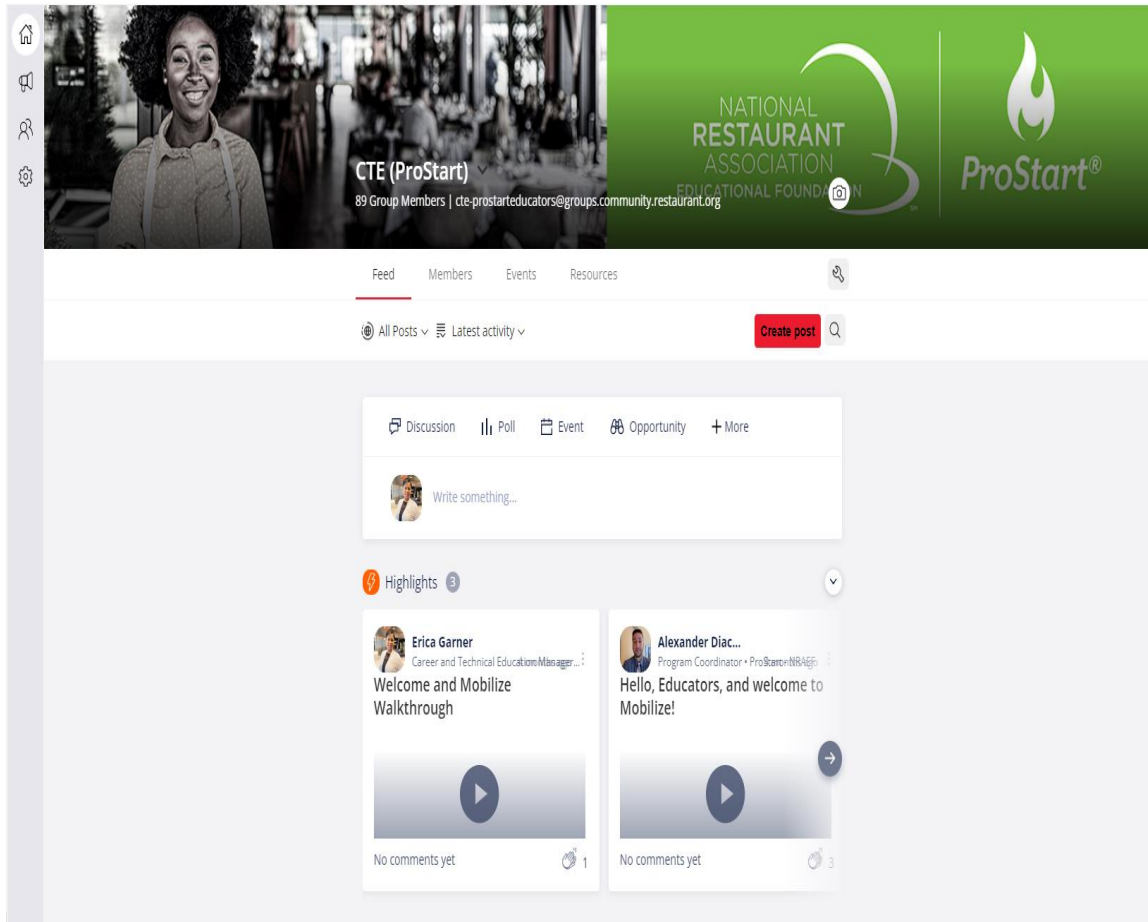
Mobilize is an online community platform. The CTE/ProStart Community brings together educators and state coordinators across the country and the national CTE/ProStart team together in one place. We created this group so all stakeholders may network, ask questions, share best practices, host events, and create a catalog of resources for current and new ProStart Educators.

CTE/ProStart Community Goals

Support, Encourage, Uplift – maximize ProStart program performance, teacher engagement, and student support with positive engagement in the community.

Guided Community Member Engagement – use educator feedback and platform analytics to guide themes and overall support for community growth.

**Come for the network and resources,
Stay to enjoy all**



Have you heard the news?

The CTE Online Community in Mobilize provides a one stop shop for ProStart educators, coordinators, and the national ProStart team. The goal of this community is for all stakeholders to network, share best practices, discuss trending topics, and access a library of resources in a positive, supportive online environment.

All ProStart educators are encouraged to join!

Didn't receive an invitation?

Access the invitation request form here:
[CTE \(ProStart\) Community Invitation Request](#)
or via the QR Code

We can't wait to see you in the community!





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Questions???



THANK YOU!

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