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Explanation of the Primary Elements of the Career Clusters as Interpreted by CTECS

USOE / OVAE Career Cluster Title

PATHWAY: A sector of a career cluster in which occupational specialities share a common set of academic, technical, and workplace knowledge and skills.

FOUNDATION: Academic, technical, and workplace knowledge and skills that cut across all pathways in the career cluster.

ED/OVAE, the State’s Career Cluster Initiative breaks the Foundation Knowledge and Skills into the following 10 categories:

- Academics
- Communications
- Employability and Career Development
- Ethics and Legal Responsibilities
- Information Technology Applications
- Leadership and Teamwork
- Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
- Safety, Health, and Environmental Systems
- Technical Skills

CORE: Academic, technical and workplace skills that are common to all sixteen clusters.

OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALITIES: Possible careers/specialties that constitute a pathway. Titles are meant to be representative, not all inclusive. The specialties represent careers that cover the spectrum of occupations and the corresponding education and training needed to perform them. (Users are encouraged to customize the cluster wheels as they see fit.)
Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.
Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.
Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services.
Business, Management, and Administration careers encompass planning, organizing, direction and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Business Management and Administration career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy.
Education and Training

Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.
Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.
Government and Public Administration

Executing governmental functions to include Governance; National Security; Foreign Service; Planning; Revenue and Taxation; Regulation; and Management and Administration at the local, state, and federal levels.
Health Science

Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.
Hospitality and Tourism encompasses the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other foodservices, lodging, attractions, recreation events and travel related services.
Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs.
Law, Public Safety and Security

Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.
Planning, managing, and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.
Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.
Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail, and water and related professional and technical support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment and facility maintenance.