Kentucky’s Vision for
Middle School Career Studies

CTECS November 2019
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Context

• Local control state

• Awaiting approval of revised Career Studies standards

• Preparing for rollout of standards in Spring 2020 using kystandards.org

• Convening a middle school task force (December) to guide development of resources to meet a variety of needs
Scope of the Standards

• Although not a tested area, KRS 156:160 requires school districts to ensure student access to standards through programs, services and operational performance.

• Student access may be ensured through:
  • aligned integration into other content areas
  • intentionally designed enrichment programs and/or experiences
  • stand alone courses

• Should support and guide development of a students’ Individual Learning Plan (ILP)
GOAL: Add relevancy to student’s learning by:

• Building self-awareness
• Exploring potential careers
• Exposing them to real-world experiences
• Connecting academics to career & college
• Developing an informed Individual Learning Plan
ACTIONS: Provide resources to facilitate academic & career planning through:

• Increased awareness of career clusters, pathways and Individual Learning Plans
• Incorporating career-related project-based learning in the classroom
• Short-term interactions with business and community leaders
• Opportunities for CTSO participation
• Flexible exploratory CTE experiences
Considerations

• Conflicted with pressure to improve test scores
• Perception of tracking students
• Teacher and counselor workloads
• Lack of knowledge of opportunities afforded by:
  • Career clusters/pathways
  • Dual/articulated credit
  • Industry certifications
  • WBL opportunities (co-op, TRACK, apprenticeships, etc.)
  • Postsecondary options
• Financial challenges
• Communication
School & District Needs

What instruction is happening and where?

### School / District Career Development Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Opportunities</th>
<th>NEVER</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Usually</th>
<th>Always</th>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Speaker(s)</td>
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School & District Needs

What career experiences are available for MS?

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Requires substantial preplanning
- Prior to this unit, students should be familiar with KY’s 16 Career Clusters and must have had opportunities to explore and narrow career choices. You need a list of these in order to assist you in collecting resources and grouping students.
- Use this list to involve local business, industry and educational (secondary, including local technology centers, and post-secondary) partners. Once identified, stakeholders should be informed if a student team will be contacting them.
## School & District Needs

How do we intentionally plan for these?

### Middle School Career Exploration Planning Tool

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<th>Where</th>
<th>By Whom</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Funding Needs / Sources</th>
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Professional Learning Needs

• What are career clusters, pathways & ILPs?

• What learning opportunities for students are imbedded within the career pathways, e.g., articulated/dual credit, industry certifications, apprenticeships, etc.

• How do we use career clusters & pathways to support ILPs?
CTE 101

Career Pathway:

- Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
- Arts, AV Technology & Communication
- Architecture & Construction
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health & Human Sciences
- Hospitality & Tourism

Career Development:

- Career Clusters: Skilled trades and technology
- Career Pathways: Technical education
- Work-Based Learning: Real-world experience

Upper-Level Jobs: Bachelor’s Degree, Trade/Technical College
Mid-Level Jobs: Industry Certificate, Apprenticeship/TRA/V
Entry-Level Jobs: Industry Certificate, Trade/Technical College

Sample Pathway:

- Vocational/Tech (1 credit)
- Career/Technical (1 credit)
- Other Program (1 credit)
- electives (1 credit)

Career Clusters FAQ:

- What are Career Clusters?
- Career Clusters are a framework that serves as an organizing tool for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, curriculum design, and instruction.
- Other Career Clusters include:
  - Agriculture, Food, Natural Resources
  - Arts, AV Technology & Communication
  - Architecture & Construction
  - Business Management & Administration
  - Education & Training
  - Finance
  - Government & Public Administration
  - Health & Human Sciences
  - Hospitality & Tourism

Career Pathways FAQ:

- What are Career Pathways?
- Career Pathways are a roadmap leading to a chosen career and includes:
  - General Education courses for both secondary and post-secondary
  - Technical courses for industry 
  - Work-Based Learning opportunities
  - Joint Certification opportunities

Why do we need Career Clusters and Career Pathways?

Career Development has evolved from the Vocational education framework of the past to today’s career technical education framework. Career Clusters and Career Pathways are tools for students to use in developing individual learning plans to guide educational decisions as they transition to high school.
Community Resources

CAREER CLUSTERS FAQ

What are Career Clusters?
- Career Clusters are a framework that serves as an organizing tool for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, curriculum design, and instruction.
- There are 30 Career Clusters that offer greater success in college and career.

What are Career Pathways?
- A Career Pathway is a sequence of courses within a Career Cluster that are designed to lead to a specific occupation.
- It includes general and technical classes, both online and in-person, that prepare students for entry-level and advanced positions.

Why do we need Career Clusters?
- Career Clusters help students in career development and career readiness.
- They provide real-world examples of students’ work.

FAMILY AND MENTOR CONVERSATION STARTER

When is Work-based Learning?
- Work-based Learning (WBL) is an effective teaching approach used to engage students in real-life occupational experiences.
- It provides structured, work-based learning activities into the curriculum, allowing a student to apply knowledge and skills learned in school to specific workplace settings.
- Learning experiences will include professional and technical skills necessary for today’s workplace.

What options are available for Work-based learning?
- Service Learning
- Internship
- Project-based Learning
- Mentoring
- Shadowing

Thank you!