

Lesson Two:

Career Exploration



Lesson Overview

This lesson is designed to get students thinking about the career path they may want to choose after they complete high school. Students will complete a career interest inventory to learn how their personal interests and talents can be translated into potential careers and begin thinking about how postsecondary education can impact their career path. Ultimately, the intent is to make the correlation between the career of their choice and postsecondary education.

Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- describe where they see themselves in 15–18 years.
- complete a career interest inventory and receive a list of careers that they would be well suited for.
- identify careers that meet their interests and talents.
- link career aspirations to college.

Vocabulary

- career
- postsecondary education

Optional Materials

- Laptop and LCD projector (if using the PowerPoint)
- Computers with Internet access

Supplemental Activity

- Making College and Career Connections (page 9 of the Supplemental Activities Guide)

Resources

- Family Information Sheet (page 62)
- AKCIS: Alaska Career Information System
<http://akcis.org>
- USA.gov Career Fields and related videos
<https://www.usa.gov/jobs-careers>
- Bureau of Labor and Statistics — Student Resources>Career Exploration (must navigate from menu)
<https://www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/careers/career-exploration.htm>



Suggestion: If possible, Lesson Two is an ideal lesson to be held in a computer lab. Lesson Two is also a great place for students to explore AKCIS.org and create their portfolios.

- Bureau of Labor and Statistics — Student Resources>Career Videos (must navigate from menu)
<https://www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/videos/video.htm>
- Bureau of Labor and Statistics — Occupational Outlook Handbook (must navigate to Publications on menu)
<http://bls.gov/ooh>
- Career Information
<http://collegegrad.com/careers>
- Career One Stop — Pathways to Career Success
<http://careeronestop.org>
Career One Stop —Career Videos
http://careerinfolnet.org/videos/COS_Videos.asp
- College Board’s Majors and Careers Central (great profiles on jobs and the majors that lead there)
<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers>

Books and Guides

- Young Person's Occupational Outlook Handbook by the U.S. Department of Labor Inc.
Publisher: JIST Works; 5th edition (August 2004)
ISBN-10: 1593571259
ISBN-13: 978-1593571252
- What Color Is Your Parachute for Teens: Discovering Yourself, Defining Your Future
by Richard Nelson Bolles, Carol Christen, Jean M. Blomquist
Publisher: Ten Speed Press (March 15, 2006)
ISBN-10: 1580087132
ISBN-13: 978-1580087131

Supplemental Online Resources

- Discover Engineering, about careers in the field
<http://discovere.org>
- The National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME)
<http://nacme.org>
- Discover Nursing, about careers in the field
<http://discovernursing.com>

Before the Lesson Checklist

- Collect information about local careers and/or industries to share with students (see page 51)

Lesson Two Timeline — Overall lesson time: One hour



Activity	Summary	Detailed Info.	Rationale
Opening Journal <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Students will answer questions in their Student Handbook while the class gets settled.	Teacher's Edition: page 44 Student Handbook: page 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage students to reflect on what they learned during the previous lesson and think about what they will be learning today.
Opening Discussion/Review of Lesson One <i>(10 minutes)</i>	Students will share with a partner what they wrote in their Opening Journal. The class will discuss how degrees relate to the careers students have selected.	Teacher's Edition: page 45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide students an opportunity to share their career goals. To review the concepts learned in Lesson One.
Career Interest Inventory* <i>(15 minutes)</i> <i>*AKCIS recommended</i>	Students will complete a career interest inventory that will direct them to possible careers that fit their talents, interests and skills.	Teacher's Edition: pages 46–47 Student Handbook: page 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explain how students' skills and talents can be translated into interesting careers.
What Do Your Results Mean? <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Students will learn what their results mean in terms of potential career paths.	Teacher's Edition: pages 48–50 Student Handbook: pages 13–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To expose students to careers they may not have considered.
Exploring Career Opportunities* <i>(20 minutes)</i> <i>*AKCIS recommended</i>	Students will research information on 2–3 careers before selecting one career that is of the most interest to them. Students will use the Career Database to do their research. If computers are available, they may use the websites mentioned at the beginning of this lesson as an additional resource. Student work will be guided by the “Gathering Information on Careers” worksheet.	Teacher's Edition: instructions, page 51, student documents, pages 52–60 Student Handbook: worksheet, page 16; Career Database, pages 17–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase student awareness of different career opportunities. To make the link between education and careers. To empower students to have high career/education aspirations.
Closing Journal <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Students will identify one career area that interests them the most and identify some key questions that they want answered regarding this career.	Teacher's Edition: page 61 Student Handbook: page 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage students to reflect on what they would like to learn about a particular career. To immerse students in a career that interests them. To help students connect education with achieving their goals.

Opening Journal

(My Path to Success Student Handbook, page 11)

Teacher’s Note: You may either have students complete the opening journal as written, or you may use the Visualize Your Future activity found in the Supplemental Activities Guide on page 16.

During our last lesson, you had the chance to learn about the different types of postsecondary education that are available to you and the different degrees you can earn. You also created graphs that demonstrated how postsecondary education can affect the amount of money you will make as an adult (you can revisit these graphs on page 7–8 of your My Path to Success Student Handbook).

- What did these graphs show you? _____

- How important do you think earning a college degree is to meeting your goals for the future?

- Think about the different degrees we discussed during our last session. Which degree do you think you will need to earn in order to have the kind of job you would like?

*Now that you’ve reflected on what we learned in the previous lesson, it’s time to think about your future and what you want your life to be like after college. Answer the following questions. **Feel free to dream big! There is no right or wrong answer, because this is what YOU want!***

- Where do you work? _____
- What is your job title? _____
- How much money do you make? _____
- What is your work environment like? _____

Describe what a typical day at work is like for you.

- How long is your work day? _____
- What do you wear to work? _____
- What kinds of activities do you do while you are working? _____

Opening Discussion

Teacher Instructions: In pairs, have the students share what they wrote in their Student Handbook. They should each take about two minutes to discuss their goals for the kind of job they want and what they picture their work life to be like. Be sure to tell the class when one partner should finish up and the other partner should begin. Once they have finished, ask a few students to quickly share what their career goals are.

Remember, whenever the lessons call for an in-class discussion, feel free to add your own questions on the topic and ask follow-up questions based on the direction of the discussion. The questions provided are designed to get the conversation started, but we hope that your rich experience will help you generate additional questions based on the flow of discussion.

Select a few pairs of students and ask them the following:

Q: What job did your partner see themselves doing in the future?

Q: What kind of work will your partner be doing?

Addressing the whole class, ask the following:

Q: I heard people mention jobs like _____ *[insert examples of jobs students mentioned]* .
What kind of degree do you think some of these jobs require?

Q: Where would you go to earn this degree?

Today we are going to focus on the different careers options that are available. Who knows what a career is? A career is a job or occupation that usually requires special training. We are going to find out what kinds of careers might be right for you, learn more about them, and find out what steps you need to take to be ready for that career.

Career Interest Inventory

We are going to do an activity to see what careers you are well-suited for based on your interests, skills, and talents. This is NOT a test — there are no right or wrong answers! As you answer the questions, think about only yourself. At the end of the activity, you'll get information about careers that match up well with the things you enjoy doing. Turn to page 12 in your Student Handbook.

Teacher Instructions: Have students read each row and place a checkmark next to each item they feel describes them. Students should add up the number of checkmarks they have placed in each row and put the total number in the last column.

After students have read through and rated each column, they should identify the three rows that had the highest scores. These are their Holland Codes. Students should then read the descriptions for their Holland Code (found on pages 13-15 in the student handbook) and begin thinking of careers that fit into those categories.

Teacher Note: Some of the words in the Career Interest Inventory may be new to your students. Let students know that if there are words they are not familiar with, they should feel free to ask you about them. Be prepared to share definitions or have a dictionary available for students to look up terms they have questions about.



Did You Know?

The career interest inventory used in this curriculum is based off of psychologist Dr. John L. Holland's theory about career choices. Holland identified six personality types that he found most suited to certain careers through his research. The six types are known as the Holland Codes. Holland believed that each person has 2–3 dominant codes that can help them determine careers that they are most suited for.

Career Interest Inventory

(My Path to Success
Student Handbook,
page 12)

Place a checkmark next to each item that you feel describes you.
Count the number of checkmarks and place that number in the final column.

CODE	ARE YOU?	CAN YOU?	YOU LIKE TO...	TALLY
R	<input type="checkbox"/> Practical <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic <input type="checkbox"/> Straightforward <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanically Inclined <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Lover	<input type="checkbox"/> Play a sport <input type="checkbox"/> Plant a garden <input type="checkbox"/> Solve mechanical problems <input type="checkbox"/> Operate tools or machines <input type="checkbox"/> Read diagrams	<input type="checkbox"/> Tinker with machines <input type="checkbox"/> Work outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Be physically active <input type="checkbox"/> Sew things <input type="checkbox"/> Build things	# of check marks _____
I	<input type="checkbox"/> Inquisitive <input type="checkbox"/> Analytical <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> Observant <input type="checkbox"/> Precise	<input type="checkbox"/> Think abstractly <input type="checkbox"/> Solve math problems <input type="checkbox"/> Understand science <input type="checkbox"/> Solve complex problems in math and science <input type="checkbox"/> Use a microscope <input type="checkbox"/> Interpret formulas	<input type="checkbox"/> Explore ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Use computers <input type="checkbox"/> Work independently <input type="checkbox"/> Perform lab experiments <input type="checkbox"/> Read scientific or technical magazines <input type="checkbox"/> Analyze data	# of check marks _____
A	<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Helpful <input type="checkbox"/> Imaginative <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative <input type="checkbox"/> Individualist	<input type="checkbox"/> Sketch, draw, paint <input type="checkbox"/> Play a musical instrument <input type="checkbox"/> Write stories, poetry, music <input type="checkbox"/> Sing, dance, act <input type="checkbox"/> Design fashions or interiors	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend concerts, theaters, exhibits <input type="checkbox"/> Read fiction, plays, poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Work on crafts <input type="checkbox"/> Take photographs <input type="checkbox"/> Express yourself creatively	# of check marks _____
S	<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Helpful <input type="checkbox"/> Idealist <input type="checkbox"/> Insightful <input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Teach/train others <input type="checkbox"/> Express yourself clearly <input type="checkbox"/> Lead a group discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Mediate disputes <input type="checkbox"/> Plan and supervise an activity <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperate well with others	<input type="checkbox"/> Work in groups <input type="checkbox"/> Help people with problems <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Do volunteer service <input type="checkbox"/> Work with young people <input type="checkbox"/> Play team sports	# of check marks _____
E	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Confident <input type="checkbox"/> Assertive <input type="checkbox"/> Sociable <input type="checkbox"/> Persuasive <input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic <input type="checkbox"/> Energetic	<input type="checkbox"/> Initiate projects <input type="checkbox"/> Sell things <input type="checkbox"/> Promote ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Give talks or speeches <input type="checkbox"/> Lead a group <input type="checkbox"/> Convince people to do things your way	<input type="checkbox"/> Make decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Be elected to an office <input type="checkbox"/> Win leadership or sales awards <input type="checkbox"/> Start your own business <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in a political campaign <input type="checkbox"/> Meet important people <input type="checkbox"/> Organize activities and events	# of check marks _____
C	<input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Accurate <input type="checkbox"/> Methodical <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematical <input type="checkbox"/> Conscientious <input type="checkbox"/> Efficient	<input type="checkbox"/> Work well within a system <input type="checkbox"/> Do a lot of paperwork in a short amount of time <input type="checkbox"/> Keep accurate records <input type="checkbox"/> Use a computer terminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow clearly defined procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Use computers <input type="checkbox"/> Work with numbers <input type="checkbox"/> Type <input type="checkbox"/> Be responsible for details	# of check marks _____

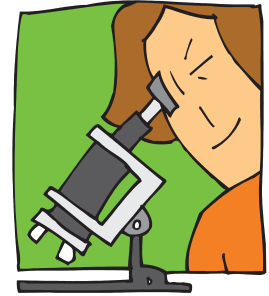
What Your Holland Code Means and What You Can Do

(My Path to Success Student Handbook, pages 14–15)

CODE	CHARACTERISTICS	POSSIBLE SKILLS	VALUES	RELATED CAREERS
R	People who have athletic or mechanical ability, prefer to work with objects, machines, tools, plants or animals, or to be outdoors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanical ingenuity Dexterity Physical Coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tradition Practicality Common Sense 	Athletic Trainer Electrician Mechanical Engineer Paramedic Zoo Keeper
▲ You are Realistic				
I	People who like to observe, learn, investigate, analyze, evaluate or solve problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematical Writing Analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence Curiosity Learning 	Attorney Computer Engineer Drafter Medical Doctor Nurse Technical Writer Veterinarian
▲ You are Investigative				
A	People who have artistic, innovating or intuitional abilities and like to work in unstructured situations using their imagination and creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity Musical Talent Artistic Expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beauty Originality Independence Imagination 	Actor Architecture Critic/Reviewer Editor Fashion Designer Graphic Designer Public Relations
▲ You are Artistic				
S	People who like to work with people to enlighten, inform, help, train or cure them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comfortable with people Verbal ability Listening Understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation Generosity Service to others 	Coach Foreign Service Officer Speech Therapist Teacher Youth Coordinator
▲ You are Social				
E	People who like to work with people, influencing, persuading, performing, leading, or managing for organizational goals or economic gain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal ability Motivating Direct Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk taking Status Competition 	Athletic Agent Advertising Exec. Hotel Manager Journalist Labor Arbitrator Real Estate Agent
▲ You are Enterprising				
C	People who like to work with data, have clerical or numerical ability, carry out tasks in detail or follow through on others' instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematical Data Analysis Record Keeping Attention to Details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy Stability Efficiency 	Sports Official Police Officer Loan Officer Financial Analyst
▲ You are Conventional				

Holland Codes

(My Path to Success Student Handbook, pages 14–15)



R

Realistic Theme:

“R” theme people usually have **good physical skills, but sometimes have trouble expressing themselves in words or in communicating their feelings to others**. They like to work outdoors, and they like to work with tools, especially large, powerful machines. They prefer to deal with things rather than with ideas or with people. They enjoy creating things with their hands and prefer occupations such as mechanic, construction work, fish and wildlife management, laboratory technician, some engineering specialties, some military jobs, agriculture, or the skilled trades.

I

Investigative Theme:

“I” theme people tend to center around science and scientific activities. They **enjoy solving abstract problems and have a great need to understand the physical world**. They prefer to think through problems rather than act them out. They prefer occupations such as design engineer, biologist, social scientist, research laboratory worker, physicist, technical writer, or meteorologist. *The word INVESTIGATIVE is used to summarize this pattern, thus I-Theme.*

A

Artistic Theme:

The “A” type here is artistically oriented, and likes to **work in artistic settings where there are many opportunities for self-expression**. Such people have little interest in problems that are highly structured or require gross physical strength, preferring those that can be dealt with through self-expression in artistic media. They are usually less assertive about their own opinions and capabilities, and are more sensitive and emotional. They describe themselves as independent, original, unconventional, expressive, and tense. Vocational choices include artist, author, cartoonist, composer, singer, dramatic coach, poet, actor or actress, and symphony conductor. *This is the ARTISTIC or A-Theme.*

S

Social Theme:

The “S” types here are **sociable, responsible, humanistic, and concerned with the welfare of others**. They usually express themselves well and get along with others; they like attention and seek situations allowing them to be at or near the center of the group. They prefer to solve problems by discussions with others, or by arranging or rearranging relationships between others; they have little interest in situations requiring physical exertion or working with machinery. Such people describe themselves as cheerful, popular, achieving, and good leaders. They prefer occupations such as school superintendent, clinical psychologist, high school teacher, marriage counselor, playground director, speech therapist, or vocational counselor. *This is the SOCIAL theme or S-Theme.*

Holland Codes (continued)



Enterprising Theme:

The extreme “E” types here have a **great skill with using words and can be persuasive**, which they put to effective use in selling, dominating, and leading; frequently they are in sales work. They see themselves as energetic, enthusiastic, adventurous, self-confident, and dominant, and they prefer social tasks where they can assume leadership. They enjoy persuading others to their own viewpoints. They are impatient with precise work or work involving long periods of intellectual effort. They like power, status, and material wealth, and enjoy working in expensive settings. Vocational preferences include business executive, buyer, hotel manager, industrial relations consultant, political campaigner, realtor, many kinds of sales work, sports promoter, and television producer, *the word ENTERPRISING summarizes this pattern of interests, thus E-Theme.*



Conventional Theme:

Extremes of the “C” type prefer the **highly ordered activities** (both verbal and numerical) that characterize **office work**. They fit well into large organizations but do not seek leadership. They respond to power and are comfortable working in a well established chain of command. They dislike unclear situations, preferring to know precisely what is expected of them. Such people describe themselves as stable, well-controlled, and dependable. They have little interest in problems requiring physical skills or intense relationships with others, and are most effective at well-defined tasks. Like the Enterprising Theme type, they value material possessions and status. Vocational preferences are mostly within the business world, and include bank examiner, bank teller, bookkeeper, some accounting jobs, financial analyst, computer operator, inventory controller, tax expert, statistician, and traffic manager. Although, again, one word cannot adequately represent the entire theme, *the word CONVENTIONAL more or less summarizes the pattern, hence C-Theme.*

Exploring Careers

- Q:** What do you think of the careers you have on your list?
- Q:** Have you heard of all these careers before?
- Q:** Do any of these careers interest you? Are these careers you have considered before?
- Q:** Which of these careers best match your interests, talents and skills?

Remember, just because a career is on your list doesn't mean that's what you HAVE to do when you grow up. And just because a career isn't listed, doesn't mean you wouldn't be good at it!

Let's take some time to learn a bit more about these careers. While you are researching the careers on your list, try and decide which one is most interesting to you. Everyone will need to choose one career that they are going to research in detail during this class.

Teacher Instructions: Have students turn to the Career Database (page 17–24 in their Student Handbook). Based on the information they find, students should select 2–3 careers to research more intensely. Allow students to use the Internet and the list of resources (see the “Resources” section on page 1 of this lesson) to find out more about the career they've selected. Have students gather the following information as they look into their career list. To guide their work, they should work to complete the “Gathering Information on Careers” worksheet on page 16 of their Student Handbook.

Some students may have a more difficult time determining a career path and may take longer to review the career information. Work with these students to understand that this choice is not permanent and can just be something they are interested in learning more about.

Once students have selected the career they are most interested in, they should begin their Closing Journal (found on page 25 of their Student Handbook).

Teacher Tip: If you do not have Internet access, you may still have students participate in this activity. Students should have plenty of resources within the Career Database. If you need additional career information, please see the Books and Guides resources on page 42. You may also wish to have information available about local industries that are not included in the Career Database.

Gathering Information on Careers

(My Path to Success Student Handbook, page 16)

For each of the careers you would like to learn more about, gather the following information. Once you've collected this information, decide which career you want to focus on for your Career Presentation in Lesson Six.

■ Job Title: _____

■ What kind of work do they do? _____

■ Do you have to go to college to work in this field? _____

■ What degrees are usually required to work in the career you identified? _____

■ Do people who work in the career you have chosen need to take any special tests or get a certain license?

■ What kind of salary do people with this career make? _____

■ Do you know anyone who has this career? _____

Career Database *(My Path to Success Student Handbook, pages 17–24)*

While these salaries reflect national median salaries, remember that salaries vary based on geographic location, level of education, and other factors. Salaries in Alaska are often higher than salaries in other states.

Accountant

Keeps track of how much money a person or company has and prepares budgets.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$69,350

Actor/Actress

Entertains and communicates with audiences by playing characters in movies, television shows, plays and commercials.

Education Required: Formal training at a dramatic art school or college.

Average Salary: \$36,379 (can be much higher depending on level of fame)

Administrative Assistant

Administrative assistants organize information, order supplies, and plan meetings along with other responsibilities.

Education Required: 2-year (associate degree) and/or 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$37,870

Advertising Manager

Plans and directs all aspects of an organization's policies and initiatives regarding its advertising strategy. Responsible for directing all advertisements and developing and implementing effective advertising campaigns for the organization.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$129,380

Agricultural Manager

Manages the day-to-day activities of farms, ranches, or nurseries. Their duties vary but focus on the business aspects of running a farm. Agricultural managers usually do not plant or

harvest; instead, they hire and supervise workers who perform most daily tasks.

Education Required: An agricultural manager can learn from experience, but with technology advancements many go to college for 2–4 years, earning an associates or bachelor's degree in farm management or business.

Average Salary: \$62,910



Architect

Designs buildings and plans their construction, taking into account size, safety, who will use the building and what it will be used for.

Education Required: 5-year college degree (bachelor's degree) — earning a bachelor's degree in architecture takes 5 years of college instead of the usual 4. Architects must also pass a licensing exam.

Average Salary: \$78,470 (can be higher if the architect owns his/her own business)

Artist

Uses a wide variety of materials and methods to express ideas, thoughts and feelings. May be a painter, sculptor, or illustrator. Shows work in museums and galleries for the public to see.

Education Required: Many artists earn a 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$47,360 (can be much higher depending on level of success)

Athlete (Professional)

Member of a professional athletic team. Practices with team members on a regular basis and competes in chosen sport (i.e., football, baseball, gymnastics, etc). Knows about the sport's practices, policies, rules, and

regulations. At times a professional athlete may act as a spokesperson for the team or sport.
Education Required: No formal education required, but higher paid players are recruited from university settings.

Average Salary: \$51,370 (can be higher depending on level of success)



Athletic Coach

Prepares and trains individual athletes or teams for competitive events. An athletic coach may be employed by national organizations, professional

and amateur teams, sports clubs, universities, or school districts.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$32,270 (higher for college or professional level coaches)

Athletics Director

Directs and coordinates every area of the athletic program. Manages the entire coaching staff and is responsible for fundraising, publicity, ticket pricing, and purchasing sports equipment.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) preferred

Average Salary: \$92,360

Athletic Trainer

Plans and directs training of student athletes. Assists players in reaching their highest athletic potential possible through athletic training.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$46,630

Attorney (Lawyer)

Explains people's legal rights, gives legal advice, and argues cases in court.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree), three years of Law School, and a licensing exam

Average Salary: \$119,250



Automotive Service Technician

Repairs cars and other motor vehicles. They are trained to diagnose and solve hard to find problems in these vehicles.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associates degree) or vocational certificate

Average Salary: \$39,550

Budget Analyst

Decides how much money to use and how to use it in a company or specific project.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) is the minimum; many employers prefer 7 years of course work

Average Salary: \$75,240



Chef

A chef prepares elaborate meals, plans menus and manages a large staff. They work in places such as restaurants, hotels, companies, or cruise ships.

Education Required: Varies, but most Executive Chefs earn certificates from culinary institutes or earn a 2-year college degree (associates degree) or 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree). Most chefs also participate in on-site training.

Average Salary: \$45,950 for a Head Chef (can be higher depending on the restaurant)

Chemist

Chemists and materials scientists find ways to make chemicals useful to us. They also try to improve things that people use daily, such as paint, medicine, and cosmetics, as well as cars and airplanes. Chemists also search for new chemicals in nature. They search for ways to save energy and reduce pollution.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$76,280

Computer Engineer

Researches, plans, designs, develops, and tests computers and related equipment. Also, designs and develops computer software. Writes instructions that list the steps a computer must follow to solve a problem or do a task.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and must also register in a professional association.

Average Salary: \$115,120

Computer Programmer

Writes instructions that list the steps a computer must follow to solve a problem or do a task.

Education Required: At least a 2-year college degree (associates degree) in data processing is required; 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) preferred.

Average Salary: \$82,240



Cosmetologist

Styles and cuts hair, gives clients manicures and facial treatments, and provides advice on applying make-up.

Education Required:

6 months to a year in trade school required. All cosmetologists must have a state license.

Average Salary: \$24,900

Counselor

Counselors help people with personal, family, and health problems.

Education Required: Varies; a 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) is the minimum, and in order to obtain a license to practice, most states require a master's degree as well.

Average Salary: \$47,980

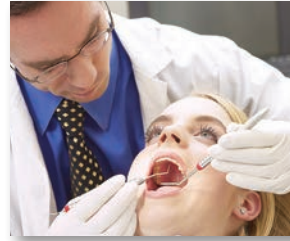
Critic/Reviewer

Forms and expresses judgments of the qualities, responsibilities, value, or truth of a matter. Also, specializes especially professionally in the evaluation and appreciation of literary work or cooking

preparation and presentation (film critic, dance critic, food critic, etc.).

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$65,873 (estimate)



Dentist

Diagnoses, prevents, and treats problems with teeth or mouth tissue. They also perform corrective surgery on gums and supporting

bones to treat gum diseases.

Education Required: Dental schools require a minimum of 2 years of college-level pre-dental education, but most dental students have at least a bachelor's degree. Dental School is a 4-year program, and all dentists must pass licensing exams.

Average Salary: \$158,120

Drafter

Responsible for routine drafting projects, such as the preparation of various drawings of structures and equipment systems derived from layouts and sketches.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) or experience in drafting required; 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) available.

Average Salary: \$54,170

Economist

Economists do research. They prepare surveys to collect data, and then figure out what the data means. They also forecast how the economy might change in the future. Economists study topics such as prices, jobs, taxes, interest rates, and the stock market. Other economists study money and the banking system.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$102,490

Editor

Writes, edits, proofreads, and copyedits a variety of documents. Plans and prepares stories for distribution.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$58,770



Electrician

Repairs, inspects, installs, modifies, and maintains electrical/electronic systems, circuits and equipment.

Education Required:

a 4-year apprenticeship is required; vocational certificates are also offered and may shorten the length of the apprenticeship.

Average Salary: \$54,110



Engineers

Apply the principles of science and math to develop solutions to technical problems. Many engineers develop new products

or work in testing, production, or maintenance. They design products ranging from bridges to GPS systems to golf clubs. There are a variety of specialties within engineering, including biomedical, chemical, civil, environmental, mechanical, and more; salaries vary within the specialties.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and licensing exam.

Average Salary: \$84,770 (salaries vary by specialty; salaries increase when engineers continue their education beyond their bachelor's degree)

Event Planner

Event Planners plan meetings and events for businesses and people.

Education Required: 4-year college degrees (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$48,290

Fashion Designer

Fashion Designers create clothing and accessories for customers.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) or 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) in a related field

Average Salary: \$67,420

Financial Analyst

Financial analysts provide analysis and guidance to businesses making investment decisions. They gather financial information, analyze it, and make recommendations on how money should be invested in order to make the most profit.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and licensing exam(s)

Average Salary: \$84,300

Foreign Service Officer

Serves clients on international business issues by staying current on financial developments in foreign countries. They also staff our embassies, consulates, and other diplomatic missions devoted to strengthening peace, stability, and prosperity. These global peacekeepers advocate American foreign policy, protect U.S. citizens, **and promote American business interests.**

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and passing marks on the Foreign Service Officer Test.

Average Salary: \$99,805 (after 10–15 years in the service)

Graphic Designer

Develop the layout and design of magazines, newspapers, and other publications. They design the logos for products and companies, the boxes products come in, and the brochures used to promote the products. They also develop graphics for websites and other media, such as DVD menus or the credits for a film.

Education Required: At least a 2-year college degree (associate degree); 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) recommended

Average Salary: \$48,700

Hotel Manager

Hotel managers are responsible for the operation of a hotel. The manager handles the hotel budget and makes sure that guests have a pleasant experience staying in the hotel. They work with front desk staff and housekeepers, as well as restaurant staff and event planners.

Education Required: at least a 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$51,800

Landscape Architect

Designs outdoor spaces such as parks, playgrounds, golf courses, college campuses, and residential neighborhoods so that they are functional, pretty, and compatible with the natural environment. They plan the location of buildings, roads, and walkways, and the arrangement of flowers, shrubs, and trees.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree), 1–4 years of apprenticeship and a licensing exam

Average Salary: \$65,760

Loan Officer

Responsible for soliciting and servicing a variety of loans. Interviews applicants and recommends approval or disapproval of customer applications for loans.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$64,660



Medical Doctor

Performs examinations, treats sick and injured people, and prescribes medication. Doctors select a specialty; for example, pediatricians

treat only children, cardiologists treat patients with heart problems, and surgeons perform operations.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree), four years of Medical School and at least one year of additional

medical education in a hospital setting are required. Must pass a series of licensing exams.

Average Salary: \$208,000 (varies by specialty)

Meteorologist

Meteorology is the study of the atmosphere, the air that covers the earth. Meteorologists study the atmosphere's physical characteristics, motions, and processes, and the way it affects the rest of our environment. The best-known application of this knowledge is in forecasting the weather.

Education Required: 4 year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$92,070

Musician

Sings or plays an instrument in live performances; makes musical recordings for use in movies, commercials and home entertainment.

Education Required: 4 year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$26.96 per hour (while some musicians are highly successful, the majority of musicians do not work in music full time)



Nurse

Nurses take care of sick and injured people. They give people medicine, treat wounds, assist doctors, and provide emotional

support to patients and families.

Education Required: There are different education requirements for different types of nursing, which include a 1-year vocational certificate, 2-year college degree (associate degree), 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree), and master's degree. Demand is currently highest for nurses with bachelor's degrees.

Average Salary: \$37,200 – \$70,000, depending on level of education

Nutritionist

Plans food and nutrition programs, supervises meal preparation, and oversees the serving of meals. They prevent and treat illnesses by promoting healthy eating habits and recommending dietary modifications. Performs nutrition screenings and offers advice on diet-related concerns such as weight loss or cholesterol reduction. May also manage food service programs at schools, hospitals, or other locations.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and an optional licensing exam

Average Salary: \$59,410

Oceanographer

Oceanographers study the composition, structure, ecosystem and other physical aspects of the earth's oceans. They may use geological, physics, and mathematics knowledge in exploration for aquaculture, oil, gas, minerals, or underground water.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree); most need a master's degree

Average Salary: \$89,850



Paramedic

Provides emergency first aid care to injured or ill patient by performing CPR or giving oxygen. Responsible for lifting patient onto stretcher and into and out of ambulance.

Accompanies ambulance driver on calls and may aid doctor during emergency situations.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) and licensing exam

Average Salary: \$33,380

Pharmacist

Measures, counts, mixes and provides people with medication prescribed by a doctor or dentist. They collaborate with other health care professionals to plan, monitor, review and evaluate patient effectiveness. Provides information and advice regarding drug interactions.

Education Required: At least 2 years of undergraduate study are required to apply to a college of pharmacy; after a student gets into the program, an additional 4 years of study are required, as well as a licensing exam.

Average Salary: \$124,170

Physicist

Physicists study the natural world, from the tiniest subatomic particles to the largest galaxies. They do experiments to discover the laws of nature. They study what things are made of (matter) and how things behave. They also study energy. They learn how it changes from one form to another.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) followed by a doctoral degree.

Average Salary: \$117,220

Pilot

A pilot flies airplanes and helicopters in order to transport people and cargo. Airline Pilots fly passengers and cargo; commercial pilots fly for different reasons, for example flying a traffic helicopter for the local news station or flying rescue missions for the fire department.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) minimum; 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) preferred

Average Salary: \$72,670 for commercial pilots; \$117,650 for airline pilots

Police Officer

Enforces laws, prevents and investigates crime. Duties may include: conducting investigations, making arrests, testifying in court, responding to emergency calls, educating the

public about safety issues, and completing routine paperwork.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) is preferred

Average Salary: \$62,960

Politician

Politicians run federal, state, and local governments. They are the nation's chief executives and legislators. They get their jobs by being elected. They make and pass laws that affect all of us. The mayor of your town is a politician, and so are your elected school board and city council members.

Education Required: The level of education varies among politicians but a 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) in Political Science is common.

Average Salary: Salaries range from little to nothing for small town council members to nearly \$400,000 for the President of the United States.

Public Relations Specialist

Helps an organization keep a positive relationship with the public by studying the public's attitudes and concerns. Communicates with the media and often writes speeches for company representatives or elected officials.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) required

Average Salary: \$59,300

Psychologist

Studies the human mind and human behavior. Psychologists may focus on researching human behavior, or may provide mental health care in hospitals, schools, or clinics. They usually apply their knowledge to a specific specialty, including health and human services, management, education, law, and sports.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and master's degree in psychology; many positions also require a doctoral degree. Also requires certification and licensing.

Average Salary: \$77,030

Real Estate Agent

Rents, buys, and sells property for clients on a commission basis.

Education Required: agent must pass a professional certification program; employers may prefer candidates with college experience.

Average Salary: \$47,880

Reporter

Investigates stories, interviews people and writes articles for a newspaper or television news program.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$40,910 (can be higher depending on level of experience)

Speech Therapist

Speech therapists work with individuals who have difficulties communicating. This can include people who have problems speaking clearly, such as people who stutter; people who have suffered a brain injury or stroke and have difficulty making speech sounds; and people who have other disabilities that make communicating difficult for them.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and a master's degree, as well as passing a licensing test.

Average Salary: \$76,610



Sport Official (Umpire or Referee)

Observes and enforces rules and regulations governing sporting events, athletic games and sports competitions. Employed

by national and local sporting commissions, organizations, and leagues.

Education Required: No official education requirements; must pass licensing exams. Officials for professional sports may need to attend an academy.

Average Salary: \$26,800



Teacher

Teachers teach children to read, write, do math, and much more. Teachers show students skills and explain information. When students

are not doing as well as they should, teachers help them. After class, teachers grade papers and projects, make tests, and write students' report cards. They meet with parents to try to help their children do better in school. Most elementary school teachers teach several subjects to one class. Most middle school and high school teachers focus on one subject.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) and a teaching license. Teachers are required to continue gaining education credits and many eventually complete a master's degree.

Average Salary: \$56,900

Technical Writer

Writes a variety of technical articles, reports, brochures, and/or manuals for documentation for a wide range of uses.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree)

Average Salary: \$70,930

Veterinarian

Cares for animals and protects humans from the diseases animals carry. Advises people how to care for their pets.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree), plus six years of veterinary school and a licensing exam

Average Salary: \$90,420

Webmaster

Webmasters make web sites. They turn words and art into Internet sites that people can use. They give computers instructions about how words and art should look on the computer screen.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) required, 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) recommended

Average Salary: \$67,990

Writer

Develops original written materials for books, magazines, websites, movies, and television. They may write fiction or non-fiction. All writers conduct research on their topics, which they gather through personal observation, library and Internet research, and interviews. Writers select the material they want to use, organize it, and use the written word to express story lines, ideas, or to convey information.

Education Required: 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) is usually preferred

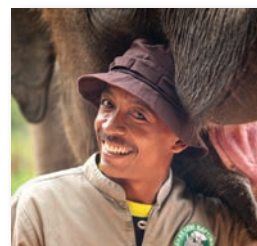
Average Salary: \$61,820

Youth Coordinator

The Youth Coordinator is responsible for developing, implementing and evaluating programs for youth in the community. Usually this job is at a local community-based organization such as the Boys and Girls Club or YMCA.

Education Required: Usually requires a 2-year college degree (associate degree) or 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree); at minimum, requires experience working with young people.

Average Salary: \$64,100



Zoo Keeper

Zookeepers take care of wild animals in zoos and animal parks. They feed the animals, clean their living spaces, and work to keep them healthy. Zoo-

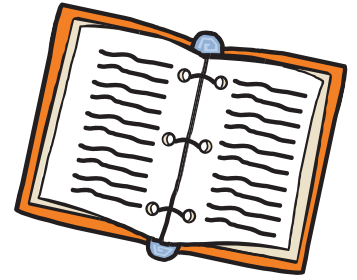
keepers watch the animals to see if they are sick or hurt. Keepers need to watch and listen carefully to notice any changes in behavior.

Education Required: 2-year college degree (associate degree) required; 4-year college degree (bachelor's degree) recommended

Average Salary: \$23,160

Closing Journal: Selecting a Career

(My Path to Success Student Handbook, page 25)



- What career have you selected? _____
- Why did you select this career? _____

- What do you think this career would be like? _____

- How much money do you think you will make in this career? _____
- What kind of postsecondary education do you need to do for this career? _____

- What two things would you like to learn more about for this career?
 1. _____

 2. _____

Closing Discussion

Today we learned about how our individual skills and talents can be turned into career opportunities.

Q: What did you learn today?

Q: How can you use the knowledge you gained about careers?



Family Information Sheet Two: Career Exploration

Dear Family Member,

During today's lesson, your student took a career interest inventory to learn how their interests and skills relate to possible careers. After doing some research on a few different careers, they selected one that they want to focus on during this class.

Family Activity

Talk to your student about their career goals and the career that they selected for their Career Day Presentation. Search the classified ads or job postings in your local newspaper for positions in that field. Notice what degrees or certificates the positions require. Decide together which school or schools would prepare your student for a career in that field.

Thank you for helping your student as they work towards making the college dream a reality!

Sincerely,

The Kids2College Team