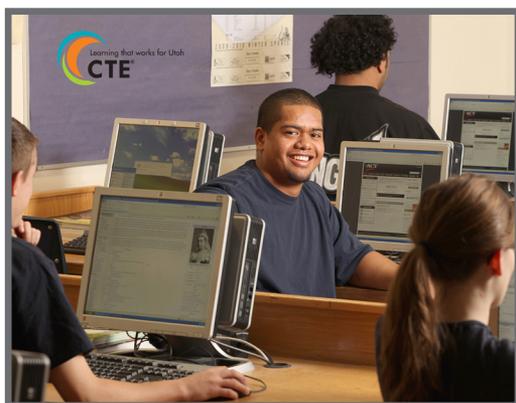


College & Career Awareness

EXPLORATION AND PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER



A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Our Mission:

College and Career Awareness offers exploration and preparation in college and career pathways focusing on jobs that are high skill and high demand, as well as satisfying and financially rewarding.

The College and Career Awareness course is designed to help students identify their interests, abilities, and skills.

Our Goals:

- > To increase students' understanding of their career opportunities, including determining their goals and aspirations, interests, and work values.
- > To increase students' knowledge about careers and demonstrate how to access current information about labor market demand, average earnings, training, and education requirements.
- > To develop lessons and activities that support students' development of a well-defined Plan for College and Career Readiness/SEOP.



College and Career Awareness lessons connect to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Every career a student explores and every activity in which a student participates links to career opportunities in STEM.

Lesson Plans:

College and Career Awareness lesson plans include rotations in experiences related to the following Career and Technical Education (CTE) program areas:

- Agricultural Education
- Business and Marketing Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Health Science Education
- Information Technology Education
- Skilled and Technical Sciences Education
- Technology and Engineering Education



Other Experiences:

Career development applications in preparation for careers requiring 1, 2, 4 or more years of post-high school education.

Work-Based Learning experiences such as field trips, career fairs, speakers, and job shadows.

Project-based learning activities that include viewing a biomedical surgery, developing a Utah's Own™ product, creating an advertising campaign highlighting Utah tourism, and participating in career gaming.



Exploration:

The College and Career Awareness course offers students the opportunity to explore careers through hands-on activities related to the following program areas and CTE Pathways:

Agricultural Education — agricultural systems technology, animal systems, food production and processing systems, natural resource systems, and plant systems.

Business and Marketing Education — accounting and finance, business administrative and technical support, entrepreneurship and management, hospitality and tourism, and marketing.

Family and Consumer Sciences Education — consumer economics services, early childhood education, family and human services, fashion design, manufacturing and merchandising, food science, dietetics and nutrition, food service and culinary arts, and interior design.

Health Science Education — biotechnology, clinical laboratory and medical forensics, medical office administrative assistant, dental, emergency medical technician, medical assistant, nursing, pharmacy, surgical technician, and therapeutic rehabilitation/exercise.

Information Technology Education — digital media, network and IT support, programming/software development, and Web development and administration.

Skilled and Technical Sciences Education — building trades, communication, mechanics and repairs, precision production trades, personal services, protective services, transportation and material moving, and visual arts.

Technology and Engineering Education — architectural design, electronics, engineering, mechanical design, and robotics.

 **CTE**[®] Learning that works for Utah



Frequently Asked Questions:

What is College and Career Awareness?

College and Career Awareness is a course designed to acquaint students with the Utah labor market and the employment opportunities for which they can prepare by defining a Plan for College and Career Readiness/SEOP.

Students will also discover how “core subjects” in school — language arts, math, social studies, and science — are essential to success, no matter which career field they choose.

Who is College and Career Awareness for?

College and Career Awareness is for seventh graders. Over 42,000 seventh graders currently participate in College and Career Awareness as part of their middle/junior high school experience.

Where is College and Career Awareness taught?

College and Career Awareness is taught in approximately 170 middle/junior high schools and charter schools throughout the state of Utah.

Why does a student need to take College and Career Awareness?

College and Career Awareness is a core requirement for middle/junior high school seventh grade students. This course helps students identify Career Pathways to help guide their course choices in middle/junior high and high school. Students will also investigate post-high school training choices and options.

How does College and Career Awareness benefit a student?

College and Career Awareness helps each student understand his or her future role as an employee and a family member, as well as helping him or her become aware of those life skills necessary to be contributing member of society.

College and Career Awareness broadens a student’s scope of learning and assists him/her in developing intellectual, social, technical, and academic skills that will be beneficial throughout his/her life.

With appropriate developmental information related to careers, educational CTE Pathways, and self-knowledge, students are able to begin making college and career goals for the future.

Students:

A satisfying and financially rewarding career requires training and education beyond high school. Jobs today require advanced training and education—a one-year certificate, a two-year associate degree, a four-year bachelor degree, or more (professional degree). In College and Career Awareness, you will discover how advanced training and education connect to a highly skilled occupation within your chosen career field.

Continuing your training and education beyond high school will give you an advantage as you enter the evolving workforce of the 21st century. Study, plan, and prepare to become college and career ready. You can do it!

As you participate in College and Career Awareness, ask yourself the following:

What are my interests? (List below.)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What am I good at doing (abilities)? (List below.)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What skills do I have? (List below.)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Discuss your interests, abilities, and skills with your College and Career Awareness teacher as you participate in hands-on activities while exploring careers.

Share your classroom experiences with your parents/guardians and your school counselor as you prepare your Plan for College and Career Readiness/SEOP.



Student signature _____

Parents:

College and Career Awareness, formerly titled CTE Introduction and before that TLC (Technology, Life, and Careers), began in 1987 in all middle/junior high schools throughout the state of Utah. What began as a class exploring careers in business, family and consumer sciences, and industrial arts has now evolved into a vital program of exploring careers in greater breadth within seven CTE program areas.

Sharing the skills you use in your career everyday can be very influential in a student's life. As students learn about careers from real-life examples, they are better able to envision themselves in specific career opportunities.

Offer to share your skills and expertise with your child's College and Career Awareness class!

Ask your child about the **interests**, **abilities**, and **skills** he/she is learning or developing in College and Career Awareness as he/she explores hands-on activities related to careers.

What careers have you discussed with your child?

What educational pathway is your child planning for?

What skills, aptitudes, or abilities do you see in your child?

The **College and Career Awareness Strands and Standards** can be found at <http://schools.utah.gov/CTE/awareness/Standards/Standards.aspx>. By reviewing the Strands and Standards you will become aware of what your child is learning in College and Career Awareness. We encourage you to talk your child's teacher and school counselor to discuss his/her interests and educational goals in preparation for his/her Plan for College and Career Readiness/SEOP.



Strands and Standards

Parent signature _____

Career Development Applications (CDA):

The **Career Development Applications** include 17 days of lesson plans designed to support self-discovery (aspects relevant to the student's college and career planning), exploration of postsecondary education and career options, and the development of an individual Plan for College and Career Readiness/SEOP that is informed by that self-discovery and exploration.

The broad goal of these 17 days is to help students begin to “figure out who they are while they decide what they want to become” (U.S. Department of Labor, *Finding One's Way: Career Guidance for Disadvantaged Youth*).

The 17 Career Development Application lessons are:

Role and Identity

- CDA 1 — Aspirations
- CDA 2 — Reality Check
- CDA 3 — Planning, Timing, Setting Goals
- CDA 4 — Exploring Nontraditional Careers

Career Awareness: Options, Requirements, Readiness

- CDA 5 — Learning the Language of College and Careers
- CDA 6 — Lifelong Learning Pyramid
- CDA 7 — Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities to Support College and Career Success
- CDA 8 — Relationship of Work Values to College and Career

College and Career Connections

- CDA 9 — Identifying Career Interests
- CDA 10 — Connecting Interests to Career Pathways in STEM
- CDA 11 — College, Career, and Financial Responsibility
- CDA 12 — Positive Employment Traits
- CDA 13 — Working Proactively With Others

College and Career Planning

- CDA 14 — Effective Career Planning Resources
- CDA 15 — 1, 2, 4, or More: A Smart Investment
- CDA 16 — Jobs of the Future: STEM and More
- CDA 17 — College and Career Awareness (Overview/Review)



UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

250 East 500 South P.O. Box 144200 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200
Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Thalea Longhurst, State Director of Career and Technical Education