

Career Clusters

What is a Career Cluster?

In today's world, you have to plan for your career early. That means as early as middle school and high school, you should be thinking about what you'd like to do as an adult.

Career Clusters are all about giving you the information you need to decide about your career. A "cluster" describes a group of careers that have specific knowledge (things you know) and skills (things you do) in common. Clusters are groups of occupations and industries that have things in common:

- Common courses you need to take to be prepared for career success
- How well you have to communicate in writing or verbally
- What skills you need to "solve problems" or "figure things out"
- The different ways you'll use computers and technology on the job
- What types of leadership or teamwork abilities are necessary on the job
- Health, safety, and legal responsibilities of different jobs
- Technical skills for "hands on" jobs

Take a look at the list of the 16 Career Clusters on this page.  As you explore each cluster, ask yourself these questions:

- Does the general area interest me?
- Do I think careers in this area would fit my personality and what I value in life?
- Do I want to learn more about how to succeed in this career?

Once you have a general idea of what careers appeal to you, the next step is to find out how to get there. Each cluster contains several career pathways. "Pathways" give you a direction by linking your career interests to a specific educational program. As you move from high school to college, career clusters and pathways can be your guide to make the right choices about your education.

Check out the ICC programs on the reverse side to get your roadmap and start your journey to a great career.

Contact the ICC Career Center for access to career planning tools and more information about occupations. (309) 694-5153



1 College Drive
East Peoria, Illinois 61635

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	
Architecture & Construction	
Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications	
Business Management & Administration	
Education & Training	
Finance	
Government & Public Administration	
Health Science	
Hospitality & Tourism	
Human Services	
Information Technology	
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	
Manufacturing	
Marketing	
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics	
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	

For More Information About Career Clusters
www.careerclusters.org
For information on each of the clusters, click on the "16 Career Clusters" tab.
For information on plans of study, Career Cluster brochures, or interest guides, click on the "Resources" tab.

For More Information on Jobs
Take a look at the online *Occupational Handbook* at:
www.bls.gov/oco/

For current information on Illinois jobs and the occupational outlook, go to:
www.bls.gov/OES/current/oes_il.htm

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Most people think of agriculture as “farming.” Although farming is an important part of this Career Cluster, this area of study covers a lot more ground! In this cluster you’ll find people who: produce and package food; create the marketing and advertising campaigns for selling food and ag products; develop financial programs to support agriculture; care for animals, both large and small; support equipment and machinery used in the field; care for the natural resources of our world and many, many others!

Sample Occupations in the Pathways

Food Products and Processing

Agricultural Inspector
Food Scientist

Plant Systems

Plant Breeder and Geneticist
Agricultural Science College Instructor
Education and Extension Specialist
Supervisor, Manager
Agricultural Crop and Horticulture Worker
Landscape and Groundskeeper

Animal Systems

Animal Scientist
Animal Care Supervisor and Manager

Power, Structural and

Technical Systems
Agricultural Parts Supervisor, Manager
Agricultural Equipment Operator

Natural Resource Systems

Natural Science Manager
Fish and Game Warden

Environmental Service Systems

Environmental Science Technician
Occupational Health, Safety Specialist
Recycling Coordinator

Agribusiness Systems

Agricultural Financial Manager
Farm and Labor Contractor
Agricultural Purchasing Agent, Manager,
Supervisor

Illinois Central College Programs

Transfer Programs

(Associate in Arts and Science Degree which is the first two years of coursework for a bachelor degree)

- Agriculture

Career Programs

(Associate in Applied Science Degree in preparation for employment; usually two years of study)

- Agricultural Business Management
- Agricultural Business Management - Agricultural Sales
- Agricultural Business Management - Animal Systems Mgmt
- Agricultural Business Management - Crop Systems Mgmt
- Agricultural Business Management - Fertilizer and Chemical Operations
- Diesel Powered Equipment Technology
- Horticulture

Certificate Programs

(less than two years of study in preparation for employment)

- Agricultural Business Management
- Landscaping
- Turf Management

**For more information about ICC programs, visit
www.icc.edu/catalog**



Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources



Architecture & Construction



Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications



Business Management & Administration



Education & Training



Finance



Government & Public Administration



Health Science



Hospitality & Tourism



Human Services



Information Technology



Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security



Manufacturing



Marketing



Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics



Transportation, Distribution & Logistics



For more information about jobs in this cluster, visit <http://online.onetcenter.org/>

Select the “Find Occupations” column and choose “Career Cluster” from the drop-down menu. On the Career Cluster page, choose the cluster you are interested in from the drop-down menu to view occupational information.