

# 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](http://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/](http://www.bls.gov/oco/)

For current information on Illinois jobs and the occupational outlook, go to:  
[www.bls.gov/OES/current/oes\\_il.htm](http://www.bls.gov/OES/current/oes_il.htm)

## Education & Training

You may think that education stops when you graduate from high school or college, but that's simply not true. Today education continues throughout your life, whether on the job or during your leisure time. Careers in this cluster include all the teachers you can imagine in our pre-school through college systems. But you can also become a management trainer, coach, or professional lecturer. And behind the scenes, you'll find support services like guidance counselors, teaching assistants, and librarians.

### Sample Occupations in the Pathways

#### Teaching and Training

Teacher or Teaching Assistant  
 Preschool/Elementary/Secondary/  
 Special Education  
 Special Education Teacher or Assistant  
 Adult Literacy Teacher  
 Curator

#### Professional Support Services

Education, Vocational, School Counselor  
 Instructional Designer or Technologist  
 Librarian or Technician  
 School Psychologist

#### Administration and Administrative Support

Educational Administrator  
 Regulatory Affairs Specialist  
 Instructional Coordinator  
 Fitness and Wellness Coordinator

### Illinois Central College Programs

#### Transfer Programs

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

- Education - Elementary
- Education - Secondary
- Education - Special
- English
- Foreign Language
- Liberal Arts
- Personal Fitness
- Physical Education

#### Career Programs

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

- Library Technical Assistant
- Paraprofessional Educator

#### Certificate Programs

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

- Library Technical Assistant
- Personal Fitness
- Paraprofessional Educator
- Pre-Technical Studies

#### Associate in General Education

*(a program of study for self-improvement; generally not transferrable)*

- General Education Degree

**For more information about ICC programs, visit [www.icc.edu/catalog](http://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.