

# 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)

## Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

The title of this cluster tells it all. If you're interested in police work, fire protection, working in a prison, managing systems to protect valuable equipment and networks, or being part of our legal system, then you need to take a look at this cluster. There's a variety of occupations to choose from, and all of them will allow you to make your mark for law and order. Whether you choose to work in the field as a crime scene technologist or police officer, in the legal system as a paralegal, or behind the scenes making sure property and lives are secure, this cluster offers you many ways to serve the public.

### Sample Occupations in the Pathways

#### Correction Services

Corrections Officer or Jailer  
 Probation Officer  
 Criminal Justice or Law Enforcement Teacher

#### Emergency and Fire Management Services

Police, Fire, or Ambulance Dispatcher  
 Emergency Management Specialist  
 Emergency Medical Technician  
 Fire Fighter  
 Fire Investigator

#### Security and Protective Services

Gaming Surveillance Officer  
 Private Detective and Investigator  
 Loss Prevention Specialist  
 Security Guard

#### Law Enforcement Services

Animal Control Worker  
 Police Detective and Investigator  
 Forensic Science Technician  
 Police Patrol Officer  
 Immigration or Customs Inspector

#### Legal Services

Judge  
 Law Clerk  
 Lawyer  
 Paralegal

### Illinois Central College Programs

#### Transfer Programs

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

- Criminal Justice
- Forensic Science
- Pre-Law

#### Career Programs

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

- Correction Officer/Youth Supervisor
- Crime Scene Technology
- Fire Science Technology
- Industrial and Business Security
- Institutional Corrections
- Law Enforcement
- Paralegal

#### Certificate Programs

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

- Crime Scene Technology
- Emergency Management
- Industrial and Business Security
- Paralegal

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.