

Government & Public Administration
 Governance
 National Security
 Foreign Service
 Planning
 Revenue & Taxation
 Regulation
 Public Management & Administration

Marketing
 Marketing
 Management
 Professional Sales
 Merchandising
 Marketing
 Communications
 Marketing Research

Business Management & Administration
 General Management
 Business Information Management
 Human Resources Management
 Operations Management
 Administrative Support

Information Technology
 Network Systems
 Information Support & Services
 Web & Digital Communications
 Programming & Software Development

Finance
 Securities & Investments
 Banking Services
 Business Finance
 Accounting
 Insurance

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
 Correction Services
 Emergency & Fire Management Services
 Security & Protective Services
 Law Enforcement Services
 Legal Services

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
 Transportation Operations
 Logistics Planning & Management Services
 Warehousing & Distribution Center Operations
 Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance
 Transportation Systems/Infrastructure
 Planning, Management & Regulation
 Health, Safety & Environmental Management
 Sales & Service

Manufacturing
 Production
 Manufacturing Production Process Development
 Maintenance, Installation & Repair
 Quality Assurance
 Logistics & Inventory Control
 Health, Safety & Environmental Assurance

Architecture & Construction
 Design/Pre-Construction
 Construction
 Maintenance/Operations

Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
 Audio and Video Technology & Film
 Printing Technology
 Journalism & Broadcasting
 Telecommunications
 Performing Arts
 Visual Arts

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
 Engineering & Technology
 Science & Math

Human Services
 Early Childhood Development & Services
 Counseling & Mental Health Services
 Family & Community Services
 Personal Care Services
 Consumer Services

Hospitality & Tourism
 Restaurants & Food/Beverage Services
 Lodging
 Travel & Tourism
 Recreation, Amusements & Attractions

Education & Training
 Administration & Administrative Support
 Professional Support Services
 Teaching/Training

Business, Marketing and Computer Education

Technology and Engineering Education

Agricultural Education

Family and Consumer Sciences

Health Sciences Technology

3 **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**
 Food Products & Processing Systems
 Plant Systems
 Animal Systems
4 Power, Structural & Technical Systems
 Natural Resources Systems
 Environmental Service Systems
 Agribusiness Systems

1 Essential Knowledge and Skills

2 Health Sciences Technology

Health Science
 Diagnostic Services
 Support Services
 Health Informatics
 Therapeutic Services
 Biotechnology Research & Development

Career Cluster Framework

- 1** Essential Knowledge and Skills
- 2** CTE Areas: Secondary (5)
- 3** Career Clusters (16)
- 4** Career Pathways (79)

Illinois' Career Cluster Model

Illinois adopted the States' Career Clusters Framework (see: <http://www.careerclusters.org/>) that offers 16 Career Clusters, aligned with 79 Career Pathways and numerous Programs of Study. Each of these elements is further defined below.

What are Career Clusters, Career Pathways, and Programs of Study?

Career Clusters are groups of occupations and industries that have in common a set of foundational knowledge and skills. There are 16 nationally recognized clusters, within which are multiple Career Pathways.

Cluster Level Knowledge and Skills: The cluster level knowledge and skills set is built on a common core required for career success in the multiple occupations included in the cluster. This shared core consists of the following elements: academic foundations; communications; problem solving and critical thinking; information technology applications; systems; safety, health and environmental; leadership and teamwork; ethics and legal responsibilities; employability and career development; and technical skills.

Career Pathways are multi-year programs of academic and technical study that prepare students for a full range of postsecondary options within each of the 16 clusters. Currently, there are 79 nationally recognized pathways, each with specific pathway knowledge and skills. These pathways provide a context for exploring career options at all levels of education and a framework for linking learning to the skills and knowledge needed for future education and employment.

Pathway Level Knowledge and Skills: The pathway level knowledge and skills set is built on a common core of knowledge and skills required for career success in all Programs of Study aligned with the pathway. This core is specific to the pathway and consists of elements selected by secondary and postsecondary educators with input from business and industry and other stakeholders.

Programs of Study (POS) are sequences of courses that incorporate a non-duplicative progression of secondary and postsecondary elements that include both academic and career and technical education content. Programs of Study should start no later than the ninth grade and continue through at least two years of postsecondary education. Programs of Study include opportunities to earn college credit (dual credit) in high school, an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the secondary/postsecondary level, and an associate or baccalaureate degree.

Why a Career Clusters Framework?

The framework of career pathways, career clusters, and Programs of Study organizes educational preparation and occupational choices into a unified concept. By combining rigorous academics with career preparation, students have a clear path to their future. Career clusters:

- are for all students
- create distinct educational plans of study students can follow from secondary to postsecondary education to employment
- create smooth transitions in the educational pipeline and reduce duplication
- empower students through information and experiences they need to make informed educational choices
- help counselors, teachers, parents, and students design individual plans of study
- comprise a key element in enhancing economic development by connecting schools with business and industry

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ILLINOIS CAREER CLUSTER MODEL



Illinois Community College Board
Illinois State Board of Education