

ROADS to SUCCESS

Grade 10

Careers

Family Newsletter

Roads to Success is a new program designed to help middle and high school students prepare for their futures. This newsletter will keep you posted on what we're doing in school, and how families can follow through at home.

Did you know? People between the ages of 18-36 change their jobs approximately 10 times. If your child doesn't yet know what he wants to do after graduation, he is not alone.

(Source: Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education, Florida Department of Education.)

Getting Real about Career Exploration

Young people often base their career goals on jobs they can see. They may seek high-profile jobs celebrated in the media or jobs held by people they know and admire. As they mature, students will get better at comparing their own skills and interests with job requirements.

There are many things that families can do to support young people as they try to figure out what career path is right for them. Here's how you can help your student make the leap from fantasy to reality.

•Ask questions about her career plans: What education is required for this job? What do people in this field say they like and dislike? How much money do people make in this career? How many job openings exist?



•Stay positive and allow him to figure out his strengths and weaknesses.

Don't criticize his career choices. Instead, talk about the skills and interests that his career choice requires. Let him reflect on whether his interests, skills, abilities, and values fit his dream job.

•Your student can show you what jobs interest her by checking out IHaveAPlanIowa.gov (www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov). She can log on using her own Account ID and Password.

Grade by Grade

In Roads to Success, tenth-graders compare their skills, interests, values, and abilities with the realities of a career. Students begin their career exploration with a self-reflective inventory that allows them to assess their ideal workplace, job responsibilities, and working conditions.

They follow up by examining a few new tools for identifying career possibilities.

Career Outlook: Students examine the number of openings and expected growth of jobs of interest. They discover that some fields offer many jobs, while opportunities in other fields are fewer.

Career Clusters: Students also explore careers by cluster – for example, Health Science. Career Clusters allow them to see a large number of careers within the same area of interest. In Architecture and Construction,

students can choose careers requiring a variety of skills and education levels – from architect to roofer – with dozens in between. And there are 15 more career clusters to choose from!

Students in Iowa have access to www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov - an interactive career planning and portfolio tool. Your student can log in by creating her own account and then using the Account Name and Password that she creates.