

CTE DIRECTIONS

Career and Technical Education News and Information Student Edition

May 2011

Message



We are nearing the end of another school year and the efforts of school administrators, counselors and teachers naturally concentrate on getting you ready for your next step in your educational plan. For many of you that next step may be very clear and to some it may be like looking into a frosted mirror. Across the country, educational leaders are exploring new approaches to helping you focus on the future. Everyone agrees that the future for students nearing graduation from high school should include plans for some postsecondary training in order to qualify for the jobs of the future. Yet, many students are still not making that important transition in their educational plan.

The national high school graduation rate has slipped in recent years, despite all of the efforts on the national and local levels to increase the number of students graduating from high school and then moving on to some postsecondary training.

We want you to gain independence and move forward to obtain a career that will sustain you for the future. One effort underway that has promise is the "career pathways project". Career Pathways are being developed to help guide you towards a specific profession by clearly identifying the sequence of courses that are needed at both the secondary and the postsecondary level. Programs of Study are being implemented in many parts of the country and the early indication is that by following a "rigorous program of study" students will graduate at a higher rate from high school and transition at a higher rate to college.

We want to give you the best chance for success in the future, by making sure that you have great information to help you choose your direction. Knowing what direction you should go will give you a head start on getting there. As Dr. Seuss said:

*You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.
You're on your own.
And you know what you know.
You are the one who'll decide where to go.*

CTE offers Pathways to YOUR future: *get started!*

Career Highlight – Summer and Part-time Employment

Though the weather might not reflect the reality that summer is on its way, you're probably counting down the days to the end of this school year. Summer brings the opportunity for you to find work and build up a bit of cash. Maybe you'll be able to purchase that new smart phone, or perhaps you just want to have the money to participate in extra-curricular school activities next year. Two industries – "Accommodation and Food Services," and "Retail Trade" employ the largest numbers of 16- to 19-year-olds. These industries often have temporary or seasonal work openings – entry-level jobs with entry-level skill requirements. Job opportunities available to youth under 14 years of age are limited by law, but broaden as you grow older. To see the rules that apply to workers younger than 18, as well as the most-likely places for young workers to find jobs, check out the "Teens" tab at <http://www.youthrules.dol.gov/index.htm>. Also, you'll want to read "Cool Tips for a Hot Summer Job," an article in the Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS) *Trendlines* publication: <http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/pubs/trendlines/mayjune10/theoutlook.pdf>. According to DWS, the occupations that offer highest wages for "inexperienced workers" include:

Construction Laborer (\$9.10/hr)
Farmworker/Greenhouse (\$7.60/hr)
Landscaping Worker (\$8.00/hr)

Office Clerk (\$8.20/hr)
Receptionist (\$7.90/hr)
Vehicle Cleaners (\$7.30/hr)

Central Region

On Tuesday, April 12, students in the Central Region gathered together to participate in a Career Day event highlighting Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathways. The event was held at the Sevier Valley Center in Richfield where 1,300 students explored numerous careers by participating in hands-on activities. Students had the opportunity to explore 20 of the 52 careers featured at the Career Day event. Local businesses set up interactive booths/displays where students were able to "try on a career," working hands-on using tools and equipment. Upon arrival each student received a "CTE Pathways Passport" to record each career they explored. Students had a wonderful time exploring careers and participating in hands-on activities with local businesses.

"I love Career Day and all the hands-on experiences." – Mallory Roberts



[Read](#) about the activities students participated in with the help of local businesses.

Wasatch Front North Region

On Friday, April 15, over 400 students in the Wasatch Front North Region participated in a Health Career Pathways Fair. The theme of the event was "Explore the Possibilities." Students heard from professionals in the healthcare field describe how their education and the experiences they had in high school helped prepare them for a career. They encouraged students to get good grades and find meaningful work experiences or internships to help with future program/scholarship applications. Students had the opportunity to attend three hands-on workshops in the areas of EMT/Paramedic, Nursing/CNA/MA, Dental Assisting/Hygiene, Surgical Technician, Pharmacy Technician, and Respiratory Therapy. Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College, Davis Applied Technology College, and Weber State University had representatives at the event to talk with students about post-secondary opportunities at their high school, highlighting the healthcare careers that are in high demand, have high wages and require high skills.



Virtual Healthcare Interactive – VHI

On Wednesday, March 30 Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school students across the state, interested in healthcare careers, participated in a [Virtual Healthcare Interactive](#) live broadcast, in partnership with the Utah State Office of Education and Intermountain Healthcare. Participating high schools were linked to the Utah State Office of Education via EdNet. Students participated in a 2-hour event where they viewed a taped surgery/procedure and directly communicate with the surgeons/physicians, using real-time technology. The healthcare topic this year was maternal and infant health. Students watched a vaginal delivery and a caesarean delivery of newborns.

"I got to see things you would only see while having the job. I got to see how I reacted when seeing the inside of a human body and the surgery and I took it very well. It was so interesting! [This event] helped me see how intense and real working in the healthcare field is, but I also saw the amazing benefits that both the professionals had. It got me really excited." – *Sidney Maxey*

Calendar

DECA International Career Development Conference: April 29 - May 4, 2011, Orlando, FL

SkillsUSA National Week of Service: May 1-7, 2011

Utah Multimedia Arts Festival/IT Challenge: May 3, 2011, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

BATC Career Day: May 4-5, Bridgerland Applied Technology College, Logan, UT

ProStart Awards Banquet: May 12, 2011, University Park Marriott, Salt Lake City, UT

Stock Market Game Awards Banquet: May 13, 2011, Joseph Smith Memorial Building, Salt Lake City, UT

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