

Career Interest Survey: Cluster-by-Cluster Edition



EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE WITH CAREER CLUSTERS

Career Clusters are a way to explore the world of work by grouping similar careers and industries together—such as healthcare, digital technology, design, or education. This helps you see how your interests and strengths connect to real opportunities. But in real life, careers do not always fit into neat boxes. Skills you build in one Cluster can transfer to others, and many jobs involve work across multiple fields.

This activity is based on Advance CTE's [National Career Clusters® Framework](#), which is used in schools and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs to help learners like you explore options, build skills, and get ready for what comes next. Whether you plan to go to or continue college, start a job, or explore hands-on training, CTE programs can help you take that first step.

As you go through the survey, think about what you enjoy doing, what you're good at, and what kinds of problems you want to help solve in your community and the world. Your answers will point you toward Career Clusters that are a great place to start learning more about your future.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. There are 14 Career Clusters to explore. Each Career Cluster is represented by a table below.
2. For each Cluster, check the statements that sound like you. You can check as many or as few as you want—there are no wrong answers.
3. When you finish a Cluster, count how many statements you checked and write the total number in the box labeled "Total # Checked in this Career Cluster" on the right side.
4. After you've gone through all the Clusters, look at your top three scores. These are great places to start exploring careers that might be a good fit for you!

Want to go further? Talk to your school counselor or career advisor to find out how your top Career Clusters connect to CTE programs, classes, or career pathways offered at your school or institution.

Career Cluster 1

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Building or fixing things	<input type="checkbox"/> I pay attention to small details	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make things faster and better?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Using machines or tools	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm careful and focused	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we use less waste in workplaces?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Following step-by-step directions	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy solving technical problems	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we make the things people need closer to home?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating new inventions or products	<input type="checkbox"/> I like figuring out how things work	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make safer tools and products?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Making processes work faster and smoother	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm good at using tools	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we fix broken machines quickly?	

Career Cluster 2

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Gardening or growing plants	<input type="checkbox"/> I like working with my hands	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we grow healthy food for everyone?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Taking care of animals	<input type="checkbox"/> I believe both people and nature need what it takes to thrive	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we take care of the land and living things?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning how water could be used to grow food	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy solving real-world problems	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we save more clean water?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Using tools or machines	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm patient	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we get food to people who need it?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Trying new foods and wondering where they come from	<input type="checkbox"/> I like being outside	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we limit damaging land when we use it?	

Career Cluster 3

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing stories, poems, or scripts	<input type="checkbox"/> I like creating and sharing my ideas	<input type="checkbox"/> How can art tell powerful stories?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Performing in music, dance, or theater	<input type="checkbox"/> I like performing or entertaining	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we use creativity to connect people?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating videos, taking photos, or making animations	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy making things look good	<input type="checkbox"/> How can technology and art work together?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Working on costumes, sets, or props	<input type="checkbox"/> I like sharing my ideas in ways that influence people	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we share news in a way that is both honest and easy to understand?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing, painting, or making designs	<input type="checkbox"/> I like using my imagination	<input type="checkbox"/> How can creativity help people understand big ideas?	

Career Cluster 4

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Building or designing outdoor spaces, houses, or other things	<input type="checkbox"/> I like building things	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we build safe, strong places to live?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping plan how something should be built	<input type="checkbox"/> I follow directions carefully	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we make buildings that use less energy?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Using tools and machines	<input type="checkbox"/> I like hands-on work	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we fix and upgrade old buildings?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Measuring and cutting materials	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy solving problems step by step	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we build things that last a long time?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Solving problems about how something should be built	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm dependable and responsible	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make construction work safer?	

Career Cluster 5

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Solving puzzles or coding challenges	<input type="checkbox"/> I like figuring out problems	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we tell stories with data?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Working with computers or apps	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy learning new technology	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we use technology to make life easier?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Playing or making video games	<input type="checkbox"/> I pay attention to details	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we build new apps or websites that meet an unmet need?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fixing things when they break	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm patient and a good problem solver	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we stop hackers and protect privacy?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Using AI or digital tools	<input type="checkbox"/> I like using technology to be creative	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we help people learn and connect online?	

Career Cluster 6

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping people learn new things	<input type="checkbox"/> I like helping others	<input type="checkbox"/> How can learning be fun for everyone?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Explaining things in simple ways	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a good listener	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we connect learning to culture, family, and community?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring or mentoring others	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm patient and kind	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we support different ways of learning?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Leading group projects or activities	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm curious and love to learn	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make places for learning feel safe and welcoming?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Coming up with fun ways to teach something	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy speaking or presenting	<input type="checkbox"/> How can education and training help people have a better life?	

Career Cluster 7

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Working with new and emerging technologies	<input type="checkbox"/> I care about the environment	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we use energy without harming the planet?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Studying science or nature	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm curious about how the Earth works	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we protect animals and wild spaces?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning how solar panels, wind turbines, or electric cars work	<input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy learning how systems work	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make energy cleaner and safer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Working on outdoor projects	<input type="checkbox"/> I like working outside	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we stop pollution and waste?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping keep parks, rivers, or forests clean	<input type="checkbox"/> I want to protect natural places	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we balance human needs with nature?	

Career Cluster 8

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Managing money or saving for goals	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm organized and careful	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we help people make smart money choices?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Playing games with strategy or math	<input type="checkbox"/> I like working with numbers	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we plan for big life expenses?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Keeping track of spending	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm honest and responsible	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we protect people from scams?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning about investing or business	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm curious about the economy	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we help people grow their savings?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping friends understand money	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a good explainer	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we use money to build wealth for the future?	

Career Cluster 9

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping people feel better	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm caring and patient	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we take care of people who are sick?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning about the body or medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> I like science and health	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we help people live healthier lives?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Having caring conversations with people	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a good listener	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we support mental health?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Giving first aid or doing wellness activities	<input type="checkbox"/> I stay calm in tough situations	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we respond in emergencies?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering or caring for others	<input type="checkbox"/> I like making a difference	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make sure everyone gets care in their communities?	

Career Cluster 10

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooking or preparing food	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm creative and enjoy making people happy	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make healthy meals that taste good?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning trips or events	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm organized and enthusiastic	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we help people enjoy their time off?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping visitors feel welcome	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm friendly and helpful	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we create great experiences for visitors?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decorating or preparing for a big party	<input type="checkbox"/> I like busy, active places	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we make travel easier and more fun?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning about different places or cultures	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm curious about the world	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we make tourism good for local communities?	

Career Cluster 11

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Starting new projects or businesses	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a self-starter	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we grow good ideas into real businesses?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Leading a team	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm confident and organized	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we help businesses run better?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping people grow	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm good at talking to people	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we create products people love?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Solving complex problems	<input type="checkbox"/> I like setting goals	<input type="checkbox"/> How can people be motivated to do their best work?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Finding ways to earn money	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm creative and motivated	<input type="checkbox"/> How can businesses make a positive difference?	

Career Cluster 12

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster
<input type="checkbox"/> Using social media to engage people	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm outgoing and persuasive	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we get the right message to the right people?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating eye-catching designs	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm creative and like making things look great	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we help people find products they love?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Persuading people or giving presentations	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm confident and clear	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we build trust with customers?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Coming up with ways to sell things	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm good at explaining things	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we understand what people want?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Finding out what people like and don't like	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm observant and analytical	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we protect people from scams or unsafe products?	

Career Cluster 13

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping during a crisis	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm fair and honest	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we keep communities safe?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning how to keep people safe	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm dependable and quick-thinking	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we respond to disasters or danger?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning about laws and government	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm calm in stressful situations	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we protect people's rights?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping the community meet a need	<input type="checkbox"/> I like solving big problems	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we prepare for future challenges?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting justice or public safety	<input type="checkbox"/> I care about fairness and service	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we make sure government programs reach all people?	

Career Cluster 14

Things I like to do	Statements that describe me	Problems I want to solve in the world	Total # checked in this Career Cluster <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Making sure things get where they belong	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm focused and reliable	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we get products where they need to go?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning routes or schedules	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm organized and detail-oriented	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we make deliveries faster and safer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Being around vehicles, ships, or planes	<input type="checkbox"/> I like machines and engines	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we move things in smart ways?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Packing, shipping, or tracking orders	<input type="checkbox"/> I like systems and logistics	<input type="checkbox"/> How do we keep shelves stocked and stores running?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fixing things when they break	<input type="checkbox"/> I like to keep things working well	<input type="checkbox"/> How can we stop things from breaking down?	

Career Cluster Key - Discover Your Top Clusters!

1. Look at the three “Total # Checked” boxes where you had the highest number of checked items.
2. Look at the Cluster number above each table. Match it to the Career Cluster name below to reveal your top Clusters.
3. Use the Career Cluster List to learn more about each Cluster!

Cluster 1: Advanced Manufacturing	Cluster 2: Agriculture	Cluster 3: Arts, Entertainment, & Design
Cluster 4: Construction	Cluster 5: Digital Technology *	Cluster 6: Education
Cluster 7: Energy & Natural Resources	Cluster 8: Financial Services	Cluster 9: Healthcare & Human Services
Cluster 10: Hospitality, Events, & Tourism	Cluster 11: Management & Entrepreneurship *	Cluster 12: Marketing & Sales *
Cluster 13: Public Service & Safety	Cluster 14: Supply Chain & Transportation	*Also a Cross-Cutting Career Cluster

My Top Career Clusters

Which three Career Clusters had the most checks (highest scores)?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If one of your top Career Clusters is not a Cross-Cutting Cluster, review Clusters 5, 11, and 12 to see if any are of interest to you. If so, consider how you might want to incorporate the Cross-Cutting Career Clusters into your future career exploration!

Remember: This activity is just a starting point for exploration—it's totally okay if you're unsure right now or if your answers change later. As you grow, try new things, and learn more about yourself, your interests might change too. Keep an open mind—you might discover something unexpected and exciting!

Career Cluster List - Start Exploring!

Now that you have picked your top three Career Clusters, you can learn more about each one. The following key gives you a quick look at what people in those fields do, the types of classes or programs you might find in school, and cool new careers to explore.

As you read, think about which programs your school, district, or region might offer that match your interests. You do not have to decide anything today—this activity is just about learning more and getting excited about your future.

You will also see that the Career Clusters are grouped into larger categories, such as Connecting & Supporting Success. These Cluster Groupings can help you explore related fields and spot connections between different Clusters that you might not have considered yet. You may find that other Clusters within the same group also match your interests and strengths.

Cross-Cutting Clusters - Connecting & Supporting Success

Cross-Cutting Clusters include jobs you'll find across all industries, not just in one field. These careers and skills connect everywhere!

Digital Technology

What it is: Using computers, code, and smart systems to solve problems.

Programs you might see: Cybersecurity, coding, game design, networking.

Emerging careers: AI programmer, cybersecurity specialist, app developer.

Management & Entrepreneurship

What it is: Leading people, starting businesses, and bringing new ideas to life.

Programs you might see: Business management, entrepreneurship, leadership.

Emerging careers: Startup founder, innovation strategist, business coach.

Marketing & Sales

What it is: Communicating ideas and helping people find products they love.

Programs you might see: Marketing, digital media, business communication.

Emerging careers: Social media strategist, brand content designer, digital campaign manager.

Building & Moving

Advanced Manufacturing

What it is: Making products using machines, robotics, and smart technology.

Programs you might see: Engineering tech, robotics, machine tools, industrial design.

Emerging careers: Robotics technician, 3D printing specialist, smart factory operator.

Construction

What it is: Building homes, schools, roads, and other structures using hands-on skills.

Programs you might see: Carpentry, electrical systems, HVAC, masonry.

Emerging careers: Green building technician, solar panel installer, 3D-printed home builder.

Supply Chain & Transportation

What it is: Moving people, goods, and information safely and efficiently.

Programs you might see: Logistics, automotive tech, aviation, commercial driving.

Emerging careers: Drone delivery coordinator, supply chain analyst, electric vehicle tech.

Caring for Communities

Education

What it is: Helping others learn, grow, and reach their goals.

Programs you might see: Teaching, early childhood education, peer mentoring.

Emerging careers: Virtual tutor, learning experience designer, coach.

Healthcare & Human Services

What it is: Taking care of people's physical and emotional health.

Programs you might see: Nursing assistant, health science, human development.

Emerging careers: Telehealth support tech, genetic counselor, mental health aide.

Public Service & Safety

What it is: Protecting people and helping communities stay safe and supported.

Programs you might see: Law enforcement, emergency services, public policy.

Emerging careers: Cybercrime analyst, emergency drone pilot, community outreach officer.

Creating & Experiencing

Arts, Entertainment & Design

What it is: Expressing ideas through art, performance, and digital creation.

Programs you might see: Graphic design, theater, media production, animation.

Emerging careers: Virtual reality designer, podcast producer, digital content creator.

Hospitality, Events, & Tourism

What it is: Helping people enjoy experiences like travel, dining, and entertainment.

Programs you might see: Culinary arts, hotel management, event planning.

Emerging careers: Experience designer, eco-tourism guide, food sustainability planner.

Cultivating Resources

Agriculture

What it is: Working with plants, animals, and the environment to grow food and protect natural resources.

Programs you might see: Animal science, plant science, agriculture mechanics, food systems.

Emerging careers: Urban farmer, drone crop monitor, precision agriculture tech.

Energy & Natural Resources

What it is: Powering the world and protecting the planet through clean energy and natural systems.

Programs you might see: Environmental science, renewable energy, wildlife management.

Emerging careers: Wind turbine tech, environmental data analyst, solar energy consultant.

Investing in the Future

Financial Services

What it is: Helping people and businesses make smart money decisions.

Programs you might see: Accounting, business finance, banking, insurance.

Emerging careers: Financial tech (fintech) advisor, cryptocurrency analyst, personal budgeting coach.