

## Career Clusters

OTED 787 / 887  
Career & Technical Education  
Curriculum

## Two Major Projects Facilitated by OVAE

- Career Clusters- Define *What...*
- Colleges and Career Transitions Initiative (Pathways)- Suggest *How...*

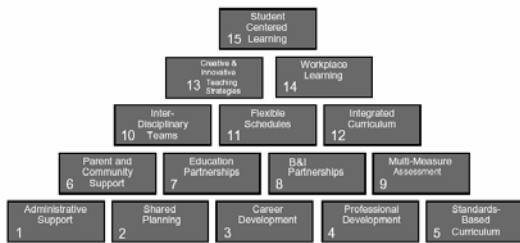
## Career Clusters

“An organizing tool defining CTE using 16 broad clusters of occupations and 81 pathways with validated standards that ensure opportunities for all students regardless of their career goals and interests.”

## Career Pathways

“ A career pathway is a coherent, articulated sequence of rigorous academic and career related courses, commencing in ninth grade and leading to an associate degree, and/or an industry-recognized certificate or licensure, and/or a baccalaureate and beyond.”

**CAREER CLUSTERS:  
15 CRITICAL COMPONENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**



## In Virginia...

- Office of Career & Technical Education Services
  - Developing templates for 81 pathways
  - Sample ready by April Administrators meetings (Roanoke & Richmond)
  - Developing definition of Career Clusters in conjunction with VCCS

## Cluster Assignment

- Read “A Brief History of Career Clusters”
- Review websites:
  - States’ Career Clusters
  - KnowHowVirginia.org
  - NCCTE Key Issues – Career Clusters/Pathways
  - U.S. DOE CTSO website

## Requirement 1

- Briefly describe career clusters and pathways, how they were developed, and the rationale behind their organization (approximately ½ page).

## Requirement 2

- Briefly describe each career cluster and detail each cluster's corresponding CTE area(s), associated student organization(s), and other key criteria (approximately ½ page each).

## Requirement 3

- Finally, review the *Knowledge and Skill Standards Booklet* for each cluster (States' Career Clusters website). Assume you are the CTE Director for a local school division. Explain how you plan to use materials outlined in these sixteen *Booklets* (and your research) to infuse career clusters into your CTE programs (approximately 1 ½ pages).

## Formalities

- Papers should not exceed ten (10) double-spaced pages (12pt font, 1-inch margins).
- Do not include a cover sheet.
- References (in APA format) may be listed on additional pages.

November 13, 2006



## CIP Codes

- Classification of Instructional Programs
- Provide a taxonomic scheme that will support the accurate tracking, assessment, & reporting of fields of study & program completions activity.
- U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
- <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/cip2000/index.asp>

## NASDCTEc

- National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium
- <http://www.careertech.org/>

## ACTE Cluster Resources

- <http://www.acteonline.org/members/techniques/careerclusters.cfm>



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the ACTE Cluster Resources website. The page is titled "Search Techniques articles by topic" and features a navigation menu on the left with categories such as "Career Tech Topics", "Public Policy", "Career Centers", "Research Data", "Publications", "Resource Centers", "CTE Community", and "What's Career Tech?". The main content area is organized into three sections: "By Career Cluster", "By Grade Level", and "By CTE Topics". The "By Career Cluster" section lists various clusters including Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Arts, A/V, Technology, and Communications; Business, Management, and Administration; Education and Training; Health Services; Information Technology; Law, Public Safety, and Security; Manufacturing; Mathematics, Science, and Technology; and Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics. The "By Grade Level" section lists Middle School, High School, and Postsecondary. The "By CTE Topics" section lists Career and Occupational Skills, Career Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction, Instructional Strategies, and Instructional Systems. A large graphic on the right side of the page features the text "Techniques" in a stylized font, with "CAREER ACADEMIES" and "WHICH SMALLER IS BETTER" below it.