Explore Careers

with the Texas Workforce Commission Grades 9 - 12

What do I like?



Use this section to discover your interests, skills, and personality type!

What do I want to do?

Learn more about careers in each of the endorsement areas.

Discover more!

Learn about more career resources for you and your family!







Where do I want to go?

Learn more about how the skills you learn in high school can help you get your first job after graduation - and beyond!

What skills do I need?

Learn how you can enhance your skills for your future career and how to plan for your future!



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What do I like?

A CONTRACTOR

Why is it sometimes so tough to answer the questions "Who am I?" or "What do I like?" Well, because it takes time to learn what in life is most exciting to you, what your strengths are and what you like. Begin learning how to answer that huge question - and take a personality assessment or do an interest assessment!

My Next Move

Discover the types of skills you are interested in and learn about careers that match your interests! (www.mynextmove.org)



Career Cluster Interest Survey

Print this **survey** to discover the career cluster that fits best with your personality. (tinyurl.com/smcareersurvey)

Online Games!

Check out these games! www.middlegalaxy.org or play Pop-A-Job to see what jobs you may not even know of yet!

Texas Career Check

Take the **Interest Profiler** quiz to find out about jobs that fit your likes and dislikes! (tinyurl.com/interest-profiler)

Education Planner Quiz

Which careers match your skills? Take this **Education Planner Quiz** (tinyurl.com/matchyourskills)

Personality Test

Go to **16personalities.com** and get a full report on your personality type after you take the test!

Where do I want to go?



Figuring out what you want to do when you grow up is a challenge, but your endorsement areas should well equip you to find your dream job tomorrow. Texas has 5 high school endorsement areas, all of which include **high-demand careers.** To learn more about high-skill, highgrowth occupations, check out this **video or website**.

How far can these endorsements take you in your dream career? Do they equip you with the skills you need to continue to **grow in your career**, receive promotions and raises?

The **Texas Workforce Commission** has created endorsement bulletins for you to print out and learn more! (http://tiny.cc/InfographicTWC)





Business and Industry



Public Service





Arts and Humanities

Multi-Disciplinary Studies

Click on the blue hyperlinks to explore!

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

This endorsement's pathway would be great for a student that loves problem solving and values science. A STEM endorsement prepares students for the many different fields, like computer science or scientific research!

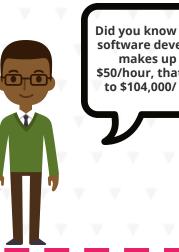
Career Pathways: Civil Drafters Machine Tool Operators Electrical Engineer Technicians Software Developers Videos: **Application Developers Robotics Engineers Video Game Designers Mechanical Engineers**

Multi-Disciplinary Studies

This endorsement's pathway would be great for a student that has deep interests in a few different fields. A multi-disciplinary studies endorsement prepares students for jobs in the worlds that collide -- like journalism and advertising!

Career Pathways:

Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks Reporters and Correspondents Surveyors Market Research Analysts Videos: **Architectural Designers Audio Engineers Fashion Designers** What is Multi-Disciplinary Studies?



Did you know that a software developer makes up to \$50/hour, that is up to \$104,000/ year!

How much does a civil drafter make in a year? What degree is required for this career?

As a Reporter, I get to travel! I got my bachelor's degree and make almost \$45,000 per year!

How much does a Surveyor make in a year? What degree is required for this career?

Sources: Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency, Texas OnCourse, Houston ISD, ConnectEd

Click on the blue hyperlinks to explore!

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Business and Industry

This endorsement's pathway would be great for a student that enjoys working with people, tools and values structure. A **business and industry endorsement** prepares students for many different fields like manufacturing and hospitality!

Career Pathways:

Accountants and Auditors Construction Managers Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers General & Operations Managers Truck Drivers

Videos:

Carpenters Electricians Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters Manufacturing Logistics Associates

Public Service

This endorsement's pathway would be great for a student who values helping people. A **public service endorsement** prepares students for many different fields, like education and healthcare!

Career Pathways:

Healthcare Social Workers Middle & High School Teachers Respiratory Therapist Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers Videos: Heroes of Public Service Health Educators Occupational Therapists Registered Nurses Did you know many apprentices receive scheduled raises during their apprenticeship programs?



Respiratory therapists, who help patients with their breathing, are some of the heroes fighting against the coronavirus!

How much does a registered nurse make in the state of Texas?

Click on the blue hyperlinks to explore!

Arts and Humanities

This endorsement's pathway would be great for a student that enjoys expressive and inventive work. An **arts and humanities endorsement** prepares students for many different worlds, like graphic design and creative writing!

Career Pathways: Audio & Video Equipment Technicians Graphic Designers Multimedia Artists and Animators Sound Engineering Technicians Historians

Videos: Cartoonists Creature Effects Creators Roboticists Sound Engineers Which of these career pathways listed make the most annually?

Love video games? Become a multimedia artist and animator, and you could make about \$91,000 per year!

Didn't see the occpation video you were hoping to find? No problem! Click here to get to Texas OnCourse's **ROADTRIP NATION** website, then:

- Answer the 3 questions provided
- Browse a list of people in occupations that interest you
- Pay attention to those with a video icon next to their photo
 - You can watch to learn more about them & what they do
- You can even set up a profile to watch all the videos available in several different careers & industries.

Have fun watching!

Checklist to use when searching for a good career:

\checkmark	Growth?	Will there be new jobs created, or replacement jobs due to retirements and job turnover?	
	Stable?	What is the turnover rate (employees leaving their jobs), which can indicate employee dissatisfaction/no promotion opportunities	
	Education/Training?	Do the education/training requirements align with your after high school plans (certificate, associate's bachelor+)? Are there quality training programs offered?	
	Affordable?	Does this occupation provide a "living wage"? How does the cost of training compare to the occupation's wage (student debt concerns)?	

Source: Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency, Texas OnCourse, ConnectEd





High-Demand Occupations

Interested in learning about the in-demand and growing jobs and industries in the state? Check out our list of Demand Occupations & Industries!

Click on any of those job titles to explore more about the demand jobs across the state. Or feel free to explore demand jobs in specific areas of the state by changing the region you want to search. **Discover:**

- What you'll be doing in the job
- Wages
- Where you could work in that job
- Knowledge and skills and/or certifications needed
- Career ladders to help you continue to gain the skills you need to be promoted and earn more money!

Interested in starting at an entry-level job and then eventually working your way up to an experienced position? Check out the profiles in the Texas OnCourse resource, *Share Your Road* to see the many different caeer pathways nearly 250 professionals have taken in their own careers! Not only will you learn about some potential pathways for yourself, but you will also get a glimpse at just how fluid and every-changing the world of work can be.

Think Outside of the Box for Career Exposure

The community you live in may have opportunities for you to get exposure to the careers and industries you are interested in without having to wait until you are ready to work in a long-term job. Below are just a couple examples. Take the time to search for similar events in your area! Email a Counselor to see if they know about any.



Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) Program - Are you interested in a career in the skilled trades? Want to learn more about apprenticeships? If you're an Austin ISD senior, you may register for the June 2020 MC3 class. For more information, check out this link!



Ascension Seton Summer Camp - Are you a future healthcare professional? Ascension Seton is hosting a summer camp to introduce students to a variety of healthcare careers, including hands-on activities! For more information, check out this **link**.

FAQ's



I do not know what I want to do after high school. What are my options?

We encourage you to explore the following options:

- **College** explore certificate programs (1 year or less); associate's degree plans (2 year degree), undergraduate degree plans (4-year degree), graduate programs (pursue after completing bachelor's degree.)
- **Career** Enter the workforce immediately after high school graduation.
- Apprenticeship Earn while you learn programs.
- **Military** Join the United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Air Force, or the United States Coast Guard.
- **AmeriCorps** a State and National program to earn work and volunteers experience while giving back to your community.

If I am applying for college, when is the FAFSA due? How long does it take for FAFSA money to come in?

- **Deadline** As long as you submit by June 30, the federal deadline, you may be qualified to receive federal loans, grants and other financial aid. If you miss your state's deadline, you will still qualify for federal aid, but not for state-funded aid programs.
- **Timeline to receive aid** It depends on how you applied. For an electronically filed FAFSA signed online with an FSA ID, you'll receive a link to your Student Aid Report (SAR) in as little as 3 to 5 days. By contrast, paper FAFSA applications can take up to 3 weeks.

I don't know what I want to do in college, what can I do?

- **Do your research** Find out what jobs are in demand and projected to remain in demand. Can you see yourself doing any of those? Take the **Texas Reality Check** quiz and see if the annual salary you have matches the job you are going for.
- **Take your time** If you are going straight to College, consider going undeclared and speak to an adviser. Take classes that interest you, volunteer, and join clubs to find what your passion and interests are. Your first two years of any college, 2 or 4 year, you will be taking the same classes regardless of what you have chosen major wise.

What if college is not for me?

We understand that College is not for everyone, and we know that college is not your only option! Multiple careers can earn you over \$50,000 without a 4-year college degree! Explore indemand careers and see how many options you have that do not require a 4-year degree.

What is an apprenticeship? How much does an apprentice get paid during the apprenticeship?

By enrolling in an apprenticeship program, you will be getting **paid to learn the trade** and also be put into a full time profession while as an apprentice. Apprentices experience wage increases as they advance in skills and knowledge. And, all apprenticeship completers earn a national, industry-recognized credential! For more information, check out the **Department of Labor's Apprenticeship Finder** tool.



How can you work on career awareness while school is closed?

Activity #1: Conduct an informational interview with your family!

Ask them these questions:

- 1. Name of person you're interviewing:
- 2. What is your job?
- 3. What type of education do you need for your job?
- 4. What do you like and dislike about your job?

Like:

Dislike:

5. What advice would you give someone looking for a job?



What skills do I need?



Activity #2: Build your own resume! Resume formats vary but the information remains the same. A resume is a one-page document that gives an employer an overview of your name, contact information, employment history, volunteer history, skills, certifications, extracurricular activities, and references.

Use this time to draft our your resume and schedule a time with one of our outreach specialists to get assistance in building the right resume! Email your resume or this workbook to **careerinformation@twc.state.tx.us** for free resume help!

Check out this video about fine-tuning your resume.

School Name:	Years attended:				
Programs of Study/CTE courses:	GPA:/4.0				
Work Experience: list out your three most recent jobs. This will include any paid experiences or projects that required a specialized skill. List the date you started and the date ended.					
List your most recent job first!					
Company Name:	_ Start date/end date:				
Job Title:					
Job Duties (list at least three:)					
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• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •					
Company Name:	_ Start date/end date:				

Job Title:_

Job Duties (list at least three:)

What skills do I need?



Volunteer Experience

List any community based activities you are involved with. (ie. church volunteering, community clean up)

Company Name: Service Project:	Start date/end date:
Job Duties <i>(list at least three:)</i>	
• • • • • • • • •	· · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Company Name: Service Project:	Start date/end date:
Job Duties (list at least three:)	
•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Skills, Certifications, and Trainings

List out all certifications that are not expired (ie. OSHA 10, CPR/First Aid). You should also list any specialized skills you have (this can include soft skills you list on next page!) and any trainings you have completed (ie. leadership workshop.)



Extracurricular Activities

Description/Events:

List all student organizations or sports you have been involved with in and out of school. Additionally, list out any events, activities, etc. your involved with at school. (ie. leadership council, student ambassador, art club, spanish club)

Organization/Club Name: Description/Events:	Start/end date:	
Organization/Club Name:	Start/end date:	

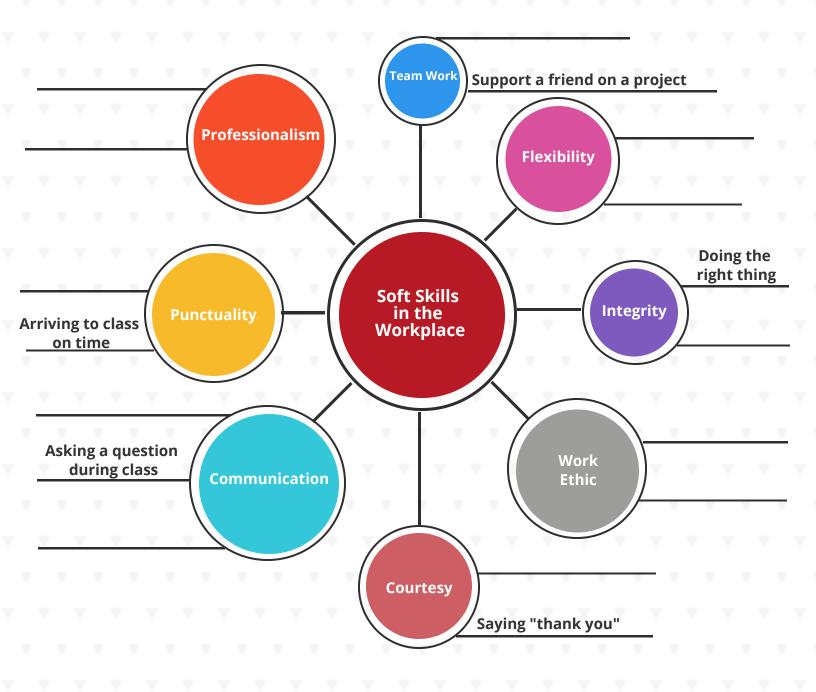
What skills do I need?



You need **soft skills** for a job or in the classroom. Soft skills are **people skills**; it is how you interact with others! These are always great skills to list on your resume. Here is a **video** about self-confidence, which is another great soft skill to have!

Activity #3:

Use this chart below to learn about the soft skills that are required in the workplace. We have helped you identify some soft skills you already use in school, can you add any more?





Thank you!

We hope you enjoyed this workbook!



If you email a completed PDF of this workbook to The Texas Workforce Commission at

careerinformation@twc.state.tx.us,

along with your full name, school district and campus, grade, and social media account, we will give you a shout out on social media!

If you have a family member or friend who is job searching right now due to the coronavirus, Workforce Solutions Capital Area has many resources available. Follow us on **Twitter, Facebook**, and **LinkedIn** for the latest updates. This workbook and job search resources can be found on our website: www.twc.state.tx.us





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