

Career and Technical Education

CAREER ORIENTATION

Career Orientation is an activity-based, occupational awareness course. It is designed to provide students with a realistic picture of themselves and the world of work. The class emphasizes the decision-making process and centers on exploratory occupational research. Employability skills including proper work habits and work attitudes are also addressed. The course content covers information needed by all students so that their educational experiences can be designed with their future career satisfaction in mind.

Career Orientation is a one- or two-semester course. It may be offered in the seventh or eighth grade (eighth grade recommended) for a minimum of one semester (60 seat hours) two consecutive nine-week periods in either the first or second semester) and a maximum of two semesters. Refer to Standards

Course Type and Content

Career Orientation is an activity-based career exploration course designed to broaden students' knowledge about careers. The course will consist of instruction in the following areas: (1) self-awareness, (2) career awareness, including the 16 Career Clusters, (3) career planning, education and training through high school and beyond, and (4) employability skills. Students shall receive occupational information from a balance of sources, such as audio-visual aids, computer software, resource speakers, field trips, job shadows, lectures, and applied activities. At the completion of the course, the student shall develop a tentative 6-year education and training career plan.

Teacher Qualifications **Endorsement Code 411 Career Orientation)**

Education - Career Orientation teachers who are not certified counselors shall have a valid secondary or middle school teaching license.

Endorsement - In addition to the licensing requirements, completion of the following courses or the mentorship training program is required for Career Orientation endorsement and must be completed prior to teaching Career Orientation a second year:

- a. Three semester hours of "Methods of Teaching Career Orientation".
- b. Three semester hours of "Applications for Career Orientation".

Teachers who are deficient in the above qualifications must obtain these hours at the rate of six hours per year until all deficiencies have been removed

OR

Mentorship Training Program

- Complete an equivalent mentorship training program designed and approved by ACE under an approved model trainer during the first semester of teaching Career Orientation.

- Attend the Career Guidance New Teacher Endorsement Workshop provided by ACE.

Counselors who teach Career Orientation shall meet state licensing standards and must have completed three semester hours of “Applications for Career Orientation” prior to teaching Career Orientation a second year or the equivalent mentorship training program.

Student Organization

A career and technical student organization for Career Orientation is optional. It is recommended that Career Orientation supports existing FCCLA and/or FBLA student organization chapters.

Specific Objectives:

1. The students will be provided with the opportunity to evaluate and assess such factors as personal needs, interests, talents, and aptitudes.
2. The student will be provided with an opportunity to identify and explore the sixteen occupational clusters in order to achieve a broad understanding of the world of work.
3. The student will be provided with an opportunity to concentrate individual study on clusters and/or jobs related to his/her personal interests and aptitudes.
4. The student will be provided with an opportunity to research job information in order to learn about duties, educational requirements, training, salary, and other pertinent job related factors.
5. The student will be provided with the opportunity to train and practice decision-making skills that can be useful throughout his/her lifetime.
6. The student will be provided with an opportunity to learn and develop basic job seeking and keeping skills.
7. The students will be provided an opportunity to acquire an awareness of a wide variety of educational training and resources for both academic and vocational.
8. The student will be provided with an opportunity to develop a flexible career and educational plan that affords the option to pursue various pathways for future education and/or training.