

PASS 3: Strategies that Enrich and Expand Student Learning

Support for College and Career Ready Students

The PASS model refers to the term "parent" as any adult who plays an important role in a child's family life.

In today's global economy, students need to be lifelong learners who have the knowledge and skills to adapt to an evolving workplace and world.

Preparing our students to succeed in the global work world requires clear practices that can be taught at all grade levels and reinforced in all career exploration and preparation programs with increasingly higher levels of complexity and expectations as students progress from early childhood to the upper grades.

The Partnership Academy for Student Success (PASS) model is designed to help parents and educators prepare students to be college and career ready. College and career ready benchmarks help students, educators, parents, colleges/universities, and employers understand if students are and have developed those skills.

The central goal of the New Jersey Department of Education is to ensure that all children, regardless of their circumstances, graduate from high school ready for college and career.

PASS partnerships with parents and educators provide students with the knowledge, attitude, academic and technical skills to be college and career ready, and live and work as productive individuals who are successful in their careers.

Career and technical education must ready students to be educated, prepared, adaptable in the workplace, and engaged in the community to effectively address the common challenges they will face in businesses, other employers, and society as a whole. In this regard, career and technical education programs, as part of a collaborative system, is most successful when student learning is supported by PASS partnerships of parents and educators.

Please find information on the statutory requirements of a high quality career and technical educational program for New Jersey students at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cte/perkins/StatePlanNarrative.pdf>

The 12 Career Ready Practices?

- Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
- Communicate clearly, effectively and with reason.
- Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
- Plan an education and career path aligned to personal goals.
- Use technology to enhance productivity.
- Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

[Download/Print the entire 21st Century Life and Careers Standard Document](#) and learn more about the Career Ready Practices, please go to the Department's Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) website at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cte/>.

Career and Technical Education prepares students to succeed as global citizens for career opportunities for the 21st Century and to support healthy economic growth within the state.

Why are Career Ready Practices Important?

Career readiness is defined as possessing skills in three overarching areas: academic skills that are needed to be successful; technical skills, i.e. those needed for a specific job function; and the 21st century soft skills, such as critical thinking, communication, creativity and innovation; and social awareness skills that are necessary for a successful career. Each area is equally important and the Career Ready Practices support the development of these essential skills that are critical to success in our global economy. According to a recent survey conducted by the New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA), employers found that new, entry-level employees lack the essential skills necessary to be successful in a skilled job after high school graduation (NJBIA, 2014 Business Outlook Survey). Verbal and written communication skills, critical thinking skills, and time management were cited as examples. It is critical for New Jersey to develop and maintain a highly skilled and globally competitive workforce to support continued economic growth and prosperity.

Knowledge of the Career Cluster Framework adopted by the New Jersey Department of Education provides parents with clear opportunities to support their child's preparation to meet their goals after graduation.

The New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Career Readiness has adopted the National Career Clusters Framework that provides a structure for organizing and delivering quality career and technical programs to students. In total, there are 16 Career Clusters in the National Career Clusters Framework, representing more than 79 Career Pathways to help students navigate their way to greater success in college and career.

Career Clusters provide the essential knowledge and skills for the 16 Career Clusters and their Career Pathways. The intent of the PASS model recognizes that this type of baseline is vital for parents' role in supporting student learning. It also functions as a useful guide in developing programs of study bridging secondary and postsecondary curriculum and for creating individual student plans of study for a complete range of career options. As such, it helps students discover their interests and their passions, and empowers them to choose the educational pathway that can lead to success in middle and high school, college and career.

Download a full list of the Career Clusters and Career Pathways [here](#): (Source: [National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium \(NASDCTEc\)](#))

To provide additional leadership to parents and school districts, the Office of Career Readiness has organized staff to support the 16 Career Clusters. Contact the [Career Cluster leads](#) and visit the links below to learn about resources for programs and programs of study.

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Hospitality & Tourism
Architecture & Construction	Human Services
Arts, A/V Technology & Communications	Information Technology
Business Management & Administration	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
Education & Training	Manufacturing
Finance	Marketing
Government & Public Administration	Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
Health Science	Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

21st Century Life and Careers

Career and Technical Education prepares students to succeed as global citizens for career opportunities for the 21st Century and to support healthy economic growth. The New Jersey Department of Education Office of Career Readiness provides leadership for the state's career and technical education system.

(More information on the services and responsibilities of OCTE are found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cte/>.)

Mission of the OCTE: *21st century life and career skills enable students to make informed decisions that prepare them to engage as active citizens in a dynamic global society and to successfully meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century global workplace.*

Vision: To integrate 21st Century life and career skills across the K-12 curriculum and in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to foster a population that:

- Continually self-reflects and seeks to improve the essential life and career practices that lead to success.
- Uses effective communication and collaboration skills and resources to interact with a global society.
- Is financially literate and financially responsible at home and in the broader community.
- Is knowledgeable about careers and can plan, execute, and alter career goals in response to changing societal and economic conditions.
- Seeks to attain skill and content mastery to achieve success in a chosen career path.

High academic standards that include 21st Century life and career skills are:

- **The 12 Career Ready Practices**
These practices outline the skills that all individuals need to have to truly be adaptable, reflective, and proactive in life and careers. These are researched practices that are essential to career readiness.
- **Personal Financial Literacy**
This standard outlines the important fiscal knowledge, habits, and skills that must be mastered in order for students to make informed decisions about personal finance. Financial literacy is an integral component of a student's college and career readiness, enabling students to achieve fulfilling, financially-secure, and successful careers.
- **Career Awareness, Exploration, and Preparation**
This standard outlines the importance of being knowledgeable about one's interests and talents, and being well informed about postsecondary and career options, career planning, and career requirements.
- **Career and Technical Education**
This standard outlines what students should know and be able to do upon completion of a CTE Program of Study.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Toolbox

- [Career Clusters](#)
- [Career Curriculum Tools and Materials To Assist Educators, Counselors, and Students](#)
- [Career Equity Resource Center](#)
- [Career Exploration Tools and Materials to Assist Educators, Counselors, and Students](#)
- [Classification of Instructional Programs \(CIP\)](#)
- [College Search Tools and Materials to Assist Educators, Counselors, and Students](#)
- [CTE Programs in NJ Schools](#)
- [Developing and implementing a comprehensive guidance and counseling system to facilitate career awareness and exploration for all students](#)
- [Directory of Licensed Occupations in New Jersey](#)
- [Guide for Developing a School District Safety and Health Plan \(PDF | Microsoft Word\)](#)
- [High Schools That Work](#)

- [Incident Reporting Form for Career and Technical Education Programs, Cooperative Education Experiences, and Structured Learning Experiences](#)
- [New Jersey Career and Technical Student Organizations](#)
- [New Jersey Career Assistance Navigation \(NJCAN\)](#)
- [New Jersey Next Stop . . . Your Career](#)
- [New Jersey's Guide to Training and Education Programs](#)
- [NJ SMART](#)
- [Potential Secondary and Postsecondary Linkages](#)
- [Safe Schools Manual](#)
- [Structured Learning Experiences](#)
- [Wage and Hour Division, US Department of Labor](#)

Parents can play a critical role in supporting learning and ensuring opportunities to understand career concepts and financial literacy. This includes helping students make informed decisions about their future personal, educational, work, and financial goals. By integrating student opportunities into instruction, New Jersey students will acquire the necessary academic and life skills to not only achieve individual success but to contribute to the success of our society.

*The New Jersey Department of Education's model for home/school partnerships – **The Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS)** provides documents and support tools intended to complement information about the state's academic standards and annual assessments for students. The PASS model provides resources, materials, and opportunities for parents and educators to build home/school partnerships in the best interest of students' academic success. For information on the NJDOE PASS model go to: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/toolkit/>. Send questions to: informccss@doe.state.nj.us.*