



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Commissioner

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TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Marie Barry, Director
Office of Career and Technical Education

SUBJECT: New Jersey Career Assistance Navigator (NJCAN)

The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for 21st Century Life and Careers includes standards for students to engage in the process of career awareness, exploration and preparation. Developing an understanding of the multitude of career opportunities available, and the knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary to be successful, is key to giving relevance to students' educational experiences. A valuable tool available for schools to support the implementation of this standard is NJCAN, a state-sponsored web-based career information system that contains resources to support students' lifelong career exploration and planning. This system includes self-assessments, college and other postsecondary school information, a searchable directory of scholarships, including opportunities specifically for New Jersey students, an extensive career database and the latest national, state and local labor market data and projections. Several new enhancements have been made to improve the content and usability, and many system features are available in both English and Spanish. There is no cost for schools to use NJCAN. Additional resources are currently being developed to support the use of this system, including NJCAN lessons aligned to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and a toolkit to accommodate the needs of special populations.

Free training is available for middle and high school administrators, teachers and counselors interested in using NJCAN. A variety of training opportunities will be available depending on the number of requests received, including regional sessions, onsite and webinars. This is being offered by The John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, through a partnership with the department. If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete the [form](#) and send it to Becky Kelleman, NJCAN trainer, at njcantraining@gmail.com. If you would like to establish a NJCAN account for your school or have any questions about the system, please contact Lori Howard, David McNair, or Melissa Stager, Office of Career and Technical Education at (609) 633-0665. I encourage you to visit NJCAN at www.njcan.org to learn more about how it can help support student success.

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