

Essential Skills

Nature Path – Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

This path focuses on feeding, watering, grooming, bathing, exercising, or otherwise providing care to promote and maintain the well-being of pets and other animals. Additionally, production, yield, and management of crops and agricultural plants or trees, shrubs, and nursery stock, their growth in soils, and management of pests is part of the nature path.

Nature Path – Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Programs at Great Oaks

Program	Location
Animal Science & Management	Laurel, Live
Environmental Science & Management	Live
Equine Science & Management	Diamond, Laurel
Veterinary Assisting	Diamond, Laurel, Scarlet

Frequently Used Pathway Skills/Abilities

Each career path has a specific set of skills/abilities that employees need for success in the industry. It is recommended that students have, are developing or can develop the skills/abilities listed below.

Sharpness of vision/hearing acuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinguish details/differences visually Differentiate various sounds Perceive distance/depth of objects in space
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express/explain thoughts/ideas Write/document/record information accurately Listen/relay accurate information in written/verbal manner Follow multi-step instructions in sequence Read and interpret technical/medical information Understand and reference diagrams/charts/anatomical information Social communication (appropriate social media/workplace conversations)
Physical mobility/strength Eye-hand coordination/dexterity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stoop/bend/walk/carry items safely Use equipment/lead small and large animals Work near others to perform medical/health procedures/therapies Fine motor skills (weighing small animals/restraining animals) Lift and carry heavy objects (up to 50 pounds)
Problem-solving/reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/follow sequenced activities accurately Work independently with minimal supervision Ability to comprehend potential hazards (animals/diseases/chemicals) Determine courses of action and treatment options Make informed decisions quickly Remain calm in stressful situations

Technology and Software

All career & technical education programs utilize various software and industry-specific equipment to prepare students for careers. Students will independently access and use various online resources, technology, and equipment.

Here is an overview of key online and computer technology used in this pathway:

Vendor	Software/Learning Management System
iCEV Agriculture Science	Online agriculture curriculum/credential testing
CareerSafe	Online OSHA 10 credentialing preparation/testing platform
Microsoft Office	Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Outlook
Internet Browsing	Conduct career-related independent and group research

Industry Credentials/Certifications

Credentials/certifications demonstrate career-ready knowledge and skills. They are typically earned by successfully completing an exam or training program. Exams are developed by industry professionals, not high school educators, and are used to verify that students have the skills needed for work.

Students can earn industry credentials/certifications while at Great Oaks. Accommodations are available but are subject to vendor or State of Ohio approval. Typical accommodations for industry-related credentials/certifications include:

Extended time

Read-aloud/translation services

Post-secondary

Great Oaks offers college credit courses in both academic and career technical programs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| College Credit Plus (CCP) | • The CCP program provides Ohio high school students an opportunity to complete college courses and earn transcribed credit. |
| Career Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) | • CTAGs award college credit for career-technical coursework to students who complete an approved course and earn a qualifying score on the end of course exam. |
| Articulated Credit | • Some Great Oaks career-technical programs have agreements with colleges where students can earn credit toward a specific degree. |

Additional Pathway Considerations

Some career pathways have additional standards students must meet to fully participate in Great Oaks programs. Programs in this pathway have additional recommendations to fully experience learning opportunities and earn industry credentials/certifications.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Academic strengths | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anatomy/biology/science• Math (ratios/unit conversions/measurements of various types/elapsed time)• Oral/written communication |
| Safety/allergens | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know when/use personal protective equipment (PPEs) as necessary• All programs work with live animals<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Horses▪ Cats/dogs▪ Rodents/rabbits▪ Birds▪ Reptiles• Restrain animals in a manner that prevents injuries (human/animal)• Recognize/anticipate animal behaviors that could lead to injuries• All programs use various chemicals for sanitation/sterilizing• All programs use various types of bedding (straw/cedar and wood chips/paper) |
| Career expectations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold/restrain animals during examinations• Prepare labels/samples for laboratory examination• Clean/sanitize exam rooms/equipment/growing areas• Prepare medical reports/treatments delivered/care recommendations• Assist with euthanizing/disposal of animals• Prepare veterinary treatment instruments/supplies/medications• Bathe/clip nails/cut/brush animal hair/fur• Maintain safe/sanitary habitats for various types of animals/plants• Exercise animals/provide companionship• Notice/quickly react to animal disposition/changes in behaviors |