



# EXPLORE DISCOVER START

Uncover the  
career that's  
right for you

You've probably been asked,  
“*What do you want to be?*”  
a thousand times.

With so much to choose  
from, where do you start?

**START HERE**

# What do you want your life to look like?

Throughout most of elementary school, you probably moved along a fairly straightforward path. You and your friends moved from one grade to another and progressed as a group through many of the same classes and milestones.

When you get to high school, that straightforward path will change. You and your friends will start making different choices about classes based on interest. Suddenly you will be facing decisions you had perhaps never been asked to make before. You may cheer, "Cool, let's go!" Perhaps it will bring stress, "Ummm, What do I do now?" Either way, big changes will be happening!

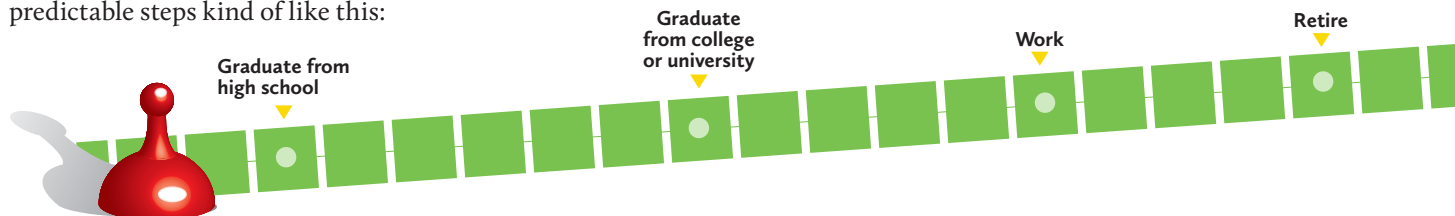
## Undecided? It's okay

First of all, feeling undecided or uncertain about your future is okay. In fact, it is perfectly normal and we have all (yes, all) been there at some point. So hey, it is okay to be unsure, to take some time to experiment with different opportunities, and to try different things on. It's all part of figuring out who you are, where you fit in, and what you want your life to look like.



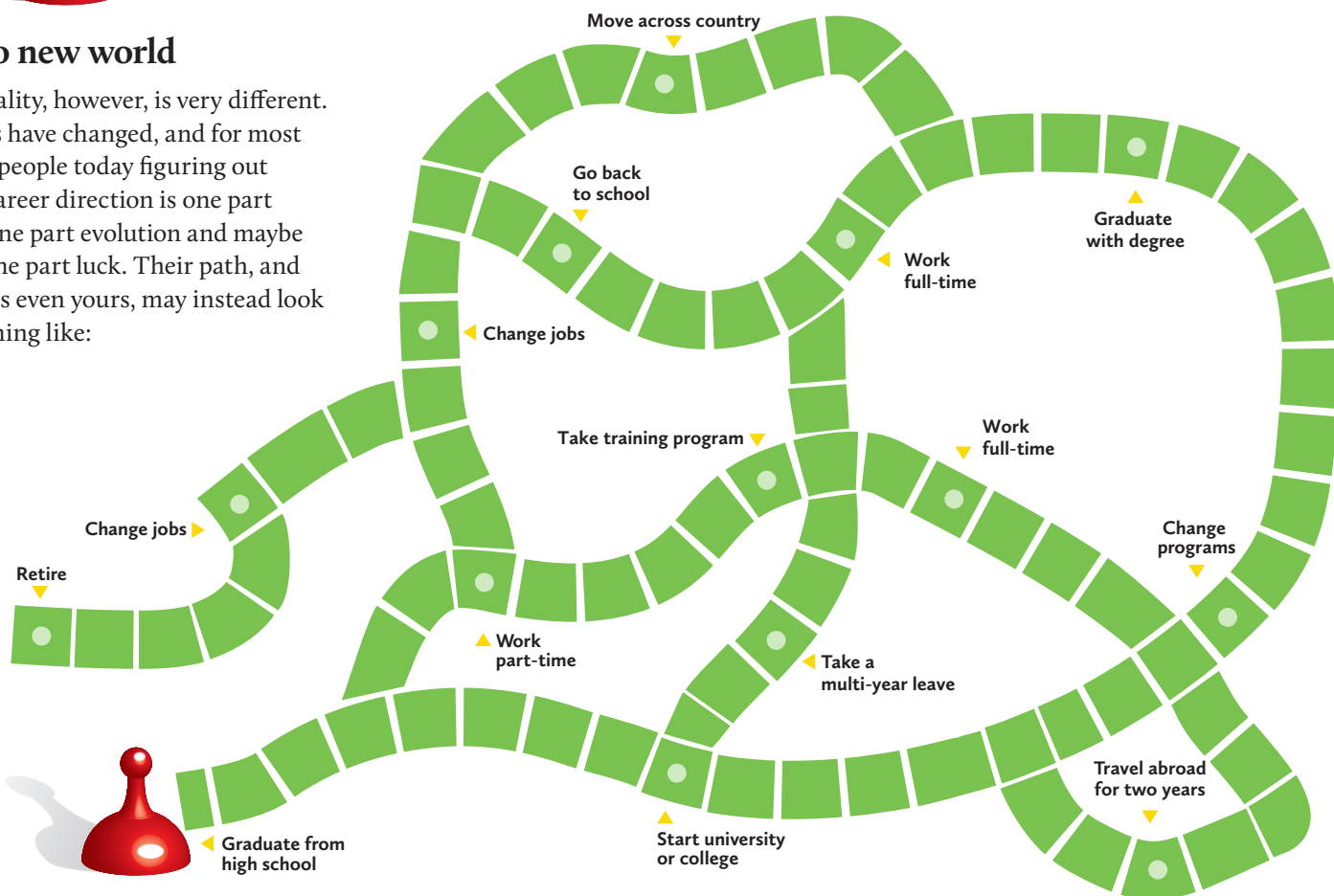
## Bye-bye cookie cutter

Your career will in all likelihood not follow a step-by-step, turn-by-turn map. There are no finite checklists, infallible formulas, or rock-solid guarantees. Sometimes, just like your GPS, you will have to re-calculate your path. Heads up – this may disappoint you, excite you, or perhaps unnerve you. Some still think your career should develop in a straight line made up of a sequence of predictable steps kind of like this:



## Hello new world

The reality, however, is very different. Things have changed, and for most young people today figuring out their career direction is one part plan, one part evolution and maybe even one part luck. Their path, and perhaps even yours, may instead look something like:



The cool thing is that all the twists, turns, side roads, and valleys that life will throw at you can end up being some of the MOST important (and enjoyable) experiences in helping you discover and understand your place in the world. Unexpected opportunities can be life changing experiences. For some, even losing a job or not getting into a program of choice can lead to even better opportunities.

The reality is that conventional, linear career paths are quickly being replaced by ongoing exploration, development, growth, experiences, and insight where people are continually assessing and adapting the role work plays in their lives. So although the decisions you make at this point are important, there will always be room to adapt, shift, and evolve. From engineer to radio producer, graphic designer to doctor, forensic scientist to electrician, mechanic to lawyer, firefighter to system analyst, exploring a variety of opportunities and experiences offers that potential for wonderful career defining moments. With each experience, you gain clarity and insight. This is the essence of career exploration.



# 70%

**of high school and university students say at least one “chance event” influenced their paths.**

## Think of it as a puzzle waiting to be created

Essentially, creating your future is really about:

- figuring out who you are
- learning about your options
- making choices
- setting some goals
- going for it

These steps rarely unfold in this exact order and some are repeated over and over.

Notice how these puzzle pieces are about the same size. As a circle, the pattern is continuous.

This is because throughout your career every stage is equally important and your career development is ongoing – a continuous cycle of exploration, development, growth, and insight.

It's not unusual to "walk around" this circle several times throughout your career. In fact, an important part of creating your career involves ongoing evaluation and assessment of the fit between you and your work. Being adaptable and resilient is one of the best things you can do to build a successful career.





# It begins with you.

As we mentioned earlier, feeling undecided, uncertain, overwhelmed or confused about your future and the choices before you is perfectly normal. Choosing to continue to feel that way, however, is not the best plan. To get where you want to be, you need to start figuring out who you are, where you want to go and how to get there.

Identifying your work and lifestyle preferences is a very important part of the career development process.

- What types of work would you enjoy?
- What kinds of people do you like to be around?
- How do you define success?

These are all important and sometimes difficult questions. Being able to answer them will help you establish clear career goals and make informed decisions about who you want to be.

## How this guide works

The following pages contain a collection of different career self-assessments. Each one is designed to offer you insight into different aspects of your personality, interests, skills, and values. Included are assessments that are pretty simple to work with but they will take some time and thought on your part. Some may be more interesting and perhaps offer more insight than others, but all are equally important and deserve your attention.

## QUICK TIPS TO GET STARTED

**Make a commitment.** Defining and researching your career goals is not going to happen overnight. Some pieces may fall quickly in place, but deciding on where you want to go and then getting there is going to take some time and self-reflection.

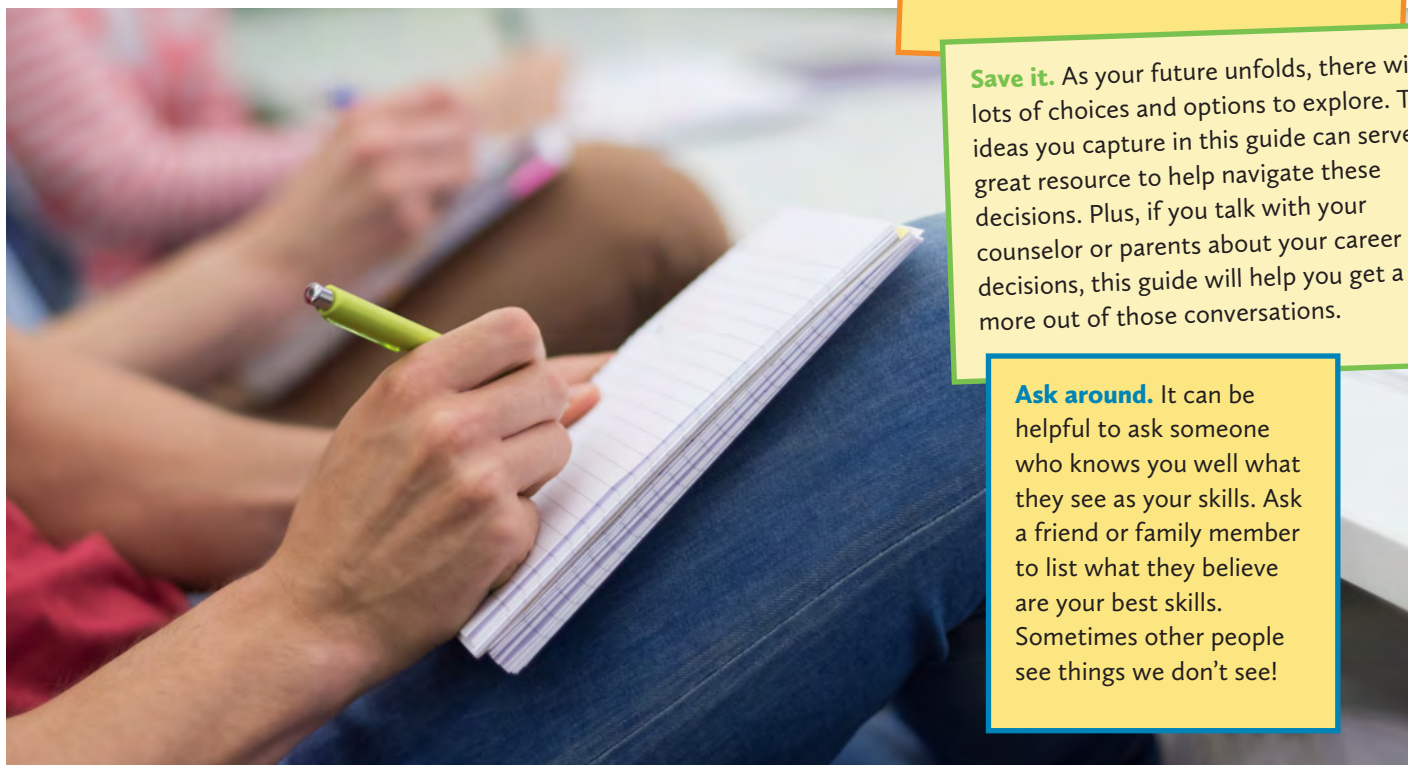
**Be honest with yourself.** If you feel pressured to become a doctor but watching *Grey's Anatomy* makes you queasy, you may have some thinking to do. As you discover your true needs and goals, you may uncover a whole new world of options that you never dreamed were possible.

**Trust yourself.** If you feel drained and bored at your job in retail but can spend hours talking to people about history, pay attention. This can be a powerful message about the types of work that will feed your mind and soul.

**Have fun!** Spending time exploring your future can be a really exciting time in your life. It can be a great chance to learn amazing things about yourself, talk to wonderful people, and have some really cool experiences. Enjoy!

**Save it.** As your future unfolds, there will be lots of choices and options to explore. The ideas you capture in this guide can serve as a great resource to help navigate these decisions. Plus, if you talk with your counselor or parents about your career decisions, this guide will help you get a lot more out of those conversations.

**Ask around.** It can be helpful to ask someone who knows you well what they see as your skills. Ask a friend or family member to list what they believe are your best skills. Sometimes other people see things we don't see!



# My personality...

*Your personality is essentially a collection of the distinct qualities, traits, and characteristics that define you as an individual.*

5

TIME TO DO:  
**5**  
minutes

When people create a career direction that aligns with their personality, they are more likely to feel that their work offers opportunities for them to be themselves. As you read through the following list, select words that you feel describe you well and capture the kind of person you are.

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet         | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent        | <input type="checkbox"/> Active          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serious       | <input type="checkbox"/> Competent          | <input type="checkbox"/> Involved        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dependable    | <input type="checkbox"/> A performer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practical     | <input type="checkbox"/> A perfectionist    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dramatic           | <input type="checkbox"/> Imaginative     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Responsible   | <input type="checkbox"/> Adventurous        | <input type="checkbox"/> Appreciative    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Logical       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tolerant           | <input type="checkbox"/> Well-spoken     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orderly       | <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible           | <input type="checkbox"/> Outspoken       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organized     | <input type="checkbox"/> An observer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Resourceful     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friendly      | <input type="checkbox"/> An analyzer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Forceful        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conscientious | <input type="checkbox"/> Efficient          | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committed     | <input type="checkbox"/> Kind               | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspiring       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thorough      | <input type="checkbox"/> Respectful         | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accurate      | <input type="checkbox"/> Moral              | <input type="checkbox"/> Determined      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loyal         | <input type="checkbox"/> Curious            | <input type="checkbox"/> Empathetic      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Considerate   | <input type="checkbox"/> Open-minded        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sociable        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive     | <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding      | <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledgeable   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful    | <input type="checkbox"/> Accepting          | <input type="checkbox"/> A risk-taker    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visionary     | <input type="checkbox"/> Adaptable          | <input type="checkbox"/> Confident       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insightful    | <input type="checkbox"/> Focused            | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A motivator   | <input type="checkbox"/> A problem-solver   | <input type="checkbox"/> People-oriented |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Original      | <input type="checkbox"/> A critical thinker | <input type="checkbox"/> Perseverant     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driven        | <input type="checkbox"/> Conceptual         | <input type="checkbox"/> Assertive       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goal-oriented | <input type="checkbox"/> Energetic          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skeptical     | <input type="checkbox"/> Spontaneous        |  |



# My interests...

*Your interests are activities, tasks, and topics that bring you joy and fulfillment. They are often the things that you enjoy in your spare time, are involved in, or can't pull yourself from!*

TIME TO DO:  
**10**  
minutes

Your career does not need to include all your interests - many people who love music, for example, never become professional musicians. People who create a career based on at least one area or activity of interest, however, are generally happier and more fulfilled in their work. As you read through the following list, select words that you feel describe the things in which you are interested. Remember, we are not evaluating your skill in these areas, just whether or not you would enjoy them.

## PERSUADING

- ☐ Speaking in public
- ☐ Fund-raising
- ☐ Debating ideas
- ☐ Persuading or convincing
- ☐ Chairing committees, groups or organizations
- ☐ Competing against others
- ☐ Managing people and projects
- ☐ Taking risks and being adventurous
- ☐ Asserting ideas
- ☐ Marketing ideas, products or services
- ☐ Entrepreneurial ventures
- ☐ Earning money and acquiring wealth
- ☐ Building power, influence, status
- ☐ Following politics
- ☐ Investing in or following the stock market

Total checks

## HELPING

- ☐ Working in groups
- ☐ Building relationships
- ☐ Communicating with people
- ☐ Listening to others' needs or problems
- ☐ Sharing responsibilities
- ☐ Encouraging
- ☐ Helping, nurturing, or caring for others
- ☐ Training, instructing, or coaching
- ☐ Teaching or explaining
- ☐ Organizing social events
- ☐ Leading discussions
- ☐ Volunteering or community service
- ☐ Entertaining others
- ☐ Interacting with others

Total checks

## CREATING

- ☐ Composing music
- ☐ Acting or performing
- ☐ Decorating
- ☐ Playing musical instruments
- ☐ Designing
- ☐ Going to museums or galleries
- ☐ Attending the theatre or concerts
- ☐ Writing poetry, plays, or stories
- ☐ Reading
- ☐ Dancing or yoga
- ☐ Drawing, sketching, or painting
- ☐ Taking photographs
- ☐ Cooking and entertaining

Total checks

## DOING

- ☐ Fixing, constructing, or building
- ☐ Using tools
- ☐ Being outdoors
- ☐ Making things work
- ☐ Action-oriented activities
- ☐ Working with my hands
- ☐ Hunting, camping, hiking
- ☐ Solving concrete problems
- ☐ Physically demanding activities
- ☐ Operating equipment or machinery
- ☐ Operating recreational vehicles

Total checks

## THINKING

- ☐ Solving abstract or intellectual problems
- ☐ Analyzing information
- ☐ Learning new facts, ideas, theories
- ☐ Collecting and organizing data
- ☐ Complex and detailed activities
- ☐ Figuring out how things work
- ☐ Academic achievement
- ☐ Developing knowledge
- ☐ Exploring theories
- ☐ Working in a lab or scientific setting
- ☐ Investigating and exploring

Total checks

## ORGANIZING

- ☐ Using or creating databases, spreadsheets
- ☐ Preparing and reading statements
- ☐ Keeping records and files
- ☐ Making charts and graphs
- ☐ Writing reports
- ☐ Activities that require accuracy and attention to detail
- ☐ Using computer software
- ☐ Conducting financial analysis
- ☐ Collecting and organizing information
- ☐ Creating and using efficient methods and strategies
- ☐ Organizing office procedures
- ☐ Performing calculations
- ☐ Following clear rules

Total checks



Add your scores to your  
Career Blueprint on page 11

# My skills...

*Your skills are things that you do well. Skills can be acquired on the job, at school, while volunteering, when traveling, in your spare time and in interactions with people.*

Because skills often evolve from interests, understanding your skills will likely give you an indication of the types of careers that may be a natural fit for you. As you read through the list, select words that describe the things you naturally tend to do well. The goal is to help you identify your strengths, gifts, and talents.

TIME TO DO:  
**10**  
minutes

## PERSUADING

- ☐ Assigning
- ☐ Coordinating
- ☐ Deciding
- ☐ Delegating
- ☐ Directing
- ☐ Enforcing
- ☐ Establishing
- ☐ Explaining
- ☐ Facilitating
- ☐ Influencing
- ☐ Initiating
- ☐ Motivating
- ☐ Negotiating
- ☐ Planning
- ☐ Prioritizing
- ☐ Recommending
- ☐ Strategizing
- ☐ Supervising

Total checks

## HELPING

- ☐ Advising
- ☐ Assisting
- ☐ Caring
- ☐ Coaching
- ☐ Counseling
- ☐ Empathizing
- ☐ Encouraging
- ☐ Explaining
- ☐ Instructing
- ☐ Interpreting
- ☐ Listening
- ☐ Mentoring
- ☐ Motivating
- ☐ Serving
- ☐ Sharing
- ☐ Supporting
- ☐ Teaching
- ☐ Translating

Total checks

## CREATING

- ☐ Acting
- ☐ Carving
- ☐ Composing
- ☐ Cooking
- ☐ Creating
- ☐ Decorating
- ☐ Designing
- ☐ Drawing
- ☐ Editing
- ☐ Entertaining
- ☐ Imagining
- ☐ Improvising
- ☐ Inventing
- ☐ Performing
- ☐ Promoting
- ☐ Speaking
- ☐ Visualizing
- ☐ Writing

Total checks

## DOING

- ☐ Building
- ☐ Constructing
- ☐ Cutting
- ☐ Drafting
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Fixing
- ☐ Growing
- ☐ Installing
- ☐ Lifting
- ☐ Measuring
- ☐ Mixing
- ☐ Moving
- ☐ Navigating
- ☐ Operating
- ☐ Programming
- ☐ Remodeling
- ☐ Repairing
- ☐ Sewing

Total checks

## THINKING

- ☐ Analyzing
- ☐ Assessing
- ☐ Clarifying
- ☐ Collecting
- ☐ Computing
- ☐ Designing
- ☐ Estimating
- ☐ Evaluating
- ☐ Interpreting
- ☐ Investigating
- ☐ Organizing
- ☐ Planning
- ☐ Processing
- ☐ Solving
- ☐ Summarizing
- ☐ Theorizing
- ☐ Troubleshooting
- ☐ Upgrading

Total checks

## ORGANIZING

- ☐ Arranging
- ☐ Charting
- ☐ Classifying
- ☐ Coding
- ☐ Compiling
- ☐ Documenting
- ☐ Filing
- ☐ Generating
- ☐ Monitoring
- ☐ Organizing
- ☐ Processing
- ☐ Recording
- ☐ Reducing
- ☐ Reviewing
- ☐ Sorting
- ☐ Tabulating
- ☐ Troubleshooting
- ☐ Updating

Total checks



# My values...

*Values are the things you believe in and that you feel are important. They guide your behavior and can heavily influence the choices you make in how you live your life.*

TIME TO DO:

**10**  
minutes

If your values are in conflict with your career, you may end up feeling frustrated or uncomfortable and lose interest in your work. Your career will not necessarily align with all of your values, but identifying options that are a good fit with the things that are most important to you is critical for developing a satisfying career.

Read through the following list and rank how important each is to you using the following scale:

**Very Important** = This is absolutely essential to you (a must have).

**Important** = You would like this; it would be good/nice to have.

**Neutral** = Undecided or don't care; you feel no strong emotion towards this one way or the other.

**Not Important** = This is something you could easily do without or may, in fact, choose to avoid.

	Not important	Neutral	Important	Very important
<b>Security</b> – confident that you can get and maintain a job				
<b>Variety</b> – frequent changes in your work tasks				
<b>Independence</b> – working with little or no supervision				
<b>Competition</b> – opportunity to test your skills or match your performance against others				
<b>Recognition</b> – acknowledgment and appreciation				
<b>Freedom</b> – managing your own schedule/workload				
<b>Status</b> – a position that is admired, respected, prestigious				
<b>Money</b> – significant financial benefit, making a lot of money				
<b>Creativity</b> – being expressive, imaginative, and original				
<b>Decision-making</b> – ability to decide how things are done				
<b>Contact</b> – regular contact with colleagues, customers, clients, students, patients, etc.				
<b>Helping society</b> – benefiting society as a whole, working for the greater good				
<b>Helping others</b> – helping individuals or groups				
<b>Excitement</b> – lots of activity and action				
<b>Belonging</b> – feeling that you are a part of a group/team				





Add your scores to your  
Career Blueprint on page 12

	Not important	Neutral	Important	Very important
<b>Working alone</b> – doing things on your own, not a lot of involvement with others				
<b>Leadership</b> – ability to direct and influence others				
<b>Expertise</b> – being known as someone with special knowledge, skill and ability in a specific area				
<b>Stability</b> – steady and predictable work opportunities				
<b>Relationships</b> – having personal/professional links with people				
<b>Balance</b> – ability to pursue interest and fulfill commitments outside of work				
<b>Fun</b> – finding pleasure and enjoyment in your work				
<b>Beauty</b> – appreciating art, nature, and design; aesthetics				
<b>Technology</b> – using computers and technical software				
<b>Structure</b> – clear hierarchy, expectations and work arrangements				
<b>Affiliation</b> – being a part of a recognized group, organization or association				
<b>Individuality</b> – being unique, follow your own preferences				
<b>Learning</b> – gaining new knowledge and acquiring new skills				
<b>Spiritual</b> – fulfilling, feeding your soul				
<b>Serenity</b> – calm, not a lot of pressure or stress				
<b>Kinesthetic</b> – using your hands and body; physical activity				
<b>Problem-solving</b> – opportunities to solve problems and develop solutions				
<b>Location</b> – ability to work and/or live where you want (e.g. urban, rural, overseas)				
<b>Physical challenge</b> – requiring strength, speed, or agility				

# My best...

*Your best is simply you at your highest quality. Your finest.  
Those moments when you shine.*

Think about your best moments and complete the statements below. Each explores the qualities and characteristics that exemplify you at your best. When writing your answers, try to use as much detail as you can. This activity might be a little challenging; it's okay to take some time to reflect and ponder. If you get stuck, ask for ideas from someone who knows you well or simply come back to it later.

**Name one or more activities that you become so involved in that you lose track of time:**

**What have you always dreamed of doing?**

**List three words you'd use to describe yourself.**

**What achievements make you most proud?**

**Ask someone who knows you well to list three words that describe you.**

**Name at least one thing that you do better than most of your friends:**



**Add your scores to your  
Career Blueprint on page 12**

# My Career Blueprint

*Your Career Blueprint gives you a chance to pull your ideas together and begin to look for patterns to help guide you.*

Just like a traditional blueprint can help you design and construct a house, a career blueprint can help you design and create your career. Using the pages you just completed, you can now create a personalized summary of your personality, interests, values, skills, and strengths. Remember, this is a blueprint, not a “set in stone” map – you will likely adjust things as you go along.

## My personality...

Reflect on the words you selected on page 5 and what they capture about the person you are. Summarize your thoughts about your personality in two or three sentences here.

## My interests...

Record how many checks you marked in each area on page 6. Then list the top three areas with the highest checks.

	Persuading	I'm most interested in:
	Helping	
	Creating	
	Doing	
	Thinking	
	Organizing	

1

2

3

## My skills...

Record how many checks you marked in each area on page 7. Then list the top three areas with the highest checks.

	Persuading	I'm most skilled at:
	Helping	
	Creating	
	Doing	
	Thinking	
	Organizing	

1

2

3



Transfer your results from previous pages

# My Career Blueprint

## My values...

List five of your “very important values” from pages 8-9.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Ask yourself how you would know you were living by your values. What would your life look like? Write about this.

## My best...

Reflect on the answers you wrote on page 10, along with those you’ve listed for your personality, your interests, your skills and your values. Now think about what your best life would look like. Capture those thoughts here. Remember, this may change over time, so just write your thoughts for today.



Transfer your results  
from previous pages

Special thanks to The University of Saskatchewan for allowing us to revise and reissue portions of their Career Assessment Guide.

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The Gallup Organization (2006). Career activities: Quick activities to help students communicate their strengths in interviews, resumes and conversations. Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Organization.



# What can you do now?

If you made it all the way through and have your Career Blueprint in hand, well done! We know that sometimes this type of self-reflection can be challenging. We hope this experience helped you learn more about yourself and how you want to approach your career.

There are more tools that can be a great complement to what you have already discovered through the exercises in this guide. They can help you develop a deeper understanding of the types of career directions that may fit well with your personality, interests, values, and strengths.

Your school can help direct you to specific career exploration resources for you, whether it is Overgrad, Xello, YouScience, Naviance, or another program – check with your counselor about what your school offers and to get your login information.



## Check out these free resources

- OhioMeansJobs – [ohiomeansjobs.com](http://ohiomeansjobs.com)
- The Career Project – [thecareerproject.org](http://thecareerproject.org)
- O\*Net – [onetonline.org](http://onetonline.org)
- Careeronestop – [careeronestop.org](http://careeronestop.org)
- Learn How to Become – [learnhowtobecome.org](http://learnhowtobecome.org)
- Jump\$tart's Reality Check – [jumpstart.org/what-we-do/support-financial-education/reality-check/](http://jumpstart.org/what-we-do/support-financial-education/reality-check/)



Think about your Career Blueprint and consider which of these career clusters reflect your skills, personality and interests. The descriptions below will help you identify which careers you might want to explore.

**DOERS** tend to follow tradition, are practical, and rely on common sense. Realistic in their approach, doers usually like to get things done.

- **Some possible careers:** Firefighter/EMT, Agriculture, Baker/Chef/Cook, Conservationist, Pilot, Mechanic, Truck Driver, Solar Panel Installer, Engineer, Welder, Electrical Technician, Carpenter, Medical Equipment Repair, Hair Stylist, Computer Control Programmer, Health & Safety

**THINKERS** tend to be independent and are often curious about how things work. They generally have an investigative approach to life.

- **Some possible careers:** Software Developer, Accountant, Environmental Scientist, Biochemist, Zoologist, Veterinarian, Food Scientist, Optometrist, Lab Technician, Phlebotomist, Computer Support, Psychologist, IT Security Analyst

**CREATORS** usually prefer to follow careers that are more independent and less structured. They are generally thought of as being creative with an artistic approach to life.

- **Some possible careers:** Writer/Author, Graphic Designer, Animator, Actor, Director, Make-Up Artist, Translator, Interior Designer, Architect, Hair Stylist, Web Designer, Preschool Teacher, Game Designer

**HELPERS** are usually people who are good listeners and have excellent communication skills. They are generally socially minded and love to help others.

- **Some possible careers:** Genetic Counselor, Nurse, Teacher, Athletic Trainer, Coach, Social Worker, Dental Hygienist, Physician Assistant, Dental Assistant, Personal Care Aide, Recreation Worker, Massage Therapist, Counselor

**PERSUADERS** enjoy meeting people and speaking in public. Enterprising individuals are usually thought of as being persuasive and take an innovative approach to life.

- **Some possible careers:** Sales Agent, Buyer, Hairstylist, Flight Attendant, Lawyer, Paralegal, Chef, Construction Manager, Financial Advisor, Supervisor, Public Relations, Inspector, Accountant

**ORGANIZERS** love organizing things. They have good implementation and follow-up skills and are structured and methodical in their approach to life.

- **Some possible careers:** Investigator, Financial Analyst, Air Traffic Controller, Receptionist, Clerk, Surgical Assistant, Court Reporter, Health Information Tech, Database Administrators, Landscaper, Accountant, Pharmacy Tech

Graphic courtesy of the University of Tennessee

**DOER career paths**

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Information Technology
- Architecture & Construction
- Manufacturing
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

**CREATOR career paths**

- Communication Arts
- Human Services
- Marketing, Sales & Service
- Education & Training
- Architecture & Construction
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

**PERSUADER career paths**

- Information Technology
- Business Management & Administration
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Marketing, Sales & Service
- Education & Training
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

**ORGANIZER career paths**

- Business Management & Administration
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Information Technology
- Architecture & Construction
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

**THINKER career paths**

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Business Management & Administration
- Finance
- Health Science
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

**HELPER career paths**

- Hospitality & Tourism
- Health Science
- Education & Training
- Government & Public Administration
- Human Services
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

**Communication Arts**

- Audio/Video Technology & Film
- Graphic Design
- Journalism & Broadcasting
- Performing Arts
- Printing Technology
- Visual Arts
- Web & Digital Communications

**Information Technology**

- Data Science
- Computer Science
- Database Administration
- Information Support & Services
- Network Systems
- Programming & Software Development
- Web Design & Development

**CREATIVE PATH****Communication Arts & Information Systems****HELPING PATH****Human Services**

- Consumer Services
- Counseling & Mental Health Services
- Early Childhood Development & Services
- Family & Community Services
- Personal Care Services

**Education & Training**

- Administration & Administrative Support
- Professional Support Services
- Teaching/Training

**Government & Public Administration**

- Foreign Service
- Governance
- National Security
- Planning
- Public Management & Administration
- Regulation
- Revenue & Taxation

**Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

- Correction Services
- Emergency & Fire Management Services
- Law Enforcement Services
- Legal Services
- Security & Protective Services

**Human Services & Education**

# HEALTH PATH

## Health Sciences

- Biotechnology Research & Development
- Diagnostics Services
- Health Informatics
- Support Services
- Therapeutic Services

## Health Sciences

## Business, Marketing & Management

### Essential Knowledge & Skills

Academic & Technical Skills  
Teamwork • Career Development  
Information Technology Application  
Problem Solving • Critical Thinking  
Employability • Ethics • Systems  
Safety, Health & Environment  
Legal Responsibilities  
Communication

## Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

## Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

- Agribusiness Systems
- Animal Systems
- Environmental & Natural Resources Systems
- Food Products & Processing Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power, Structural & Technical Systems

# NATURE PATH

## Marketing, Sales & Service

- Marketing Communications
- Marketing Management
- Marketing Research
- Merchandising
- Professional Sales

## Business Management & Administration

- Administrative Services
- Business Information Management
- General Management
- Human Resources Management
- Operations Management

## Finance

- Accounting
- Banking Services
- Business Finance
- Insurance
- Securities & Investments

## Hospitality & Tourism

- Lodging
- Recreation, Amusements & Attractions
- Restaurants, Food & Beverage Services

# BUSINESS PATH

# BUILDING PATH

## Manufacturing

- Production
- Manufacturing Production Process Development
- Maintenance, Installation & Repair
- Quality Assurance
- Logistics & Inventory Control
- Health, Safety & Environmental Assurance

## Architecture & Construction

- Design & Pre-Construction
- Construction
- Maintenance & Operations

## Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

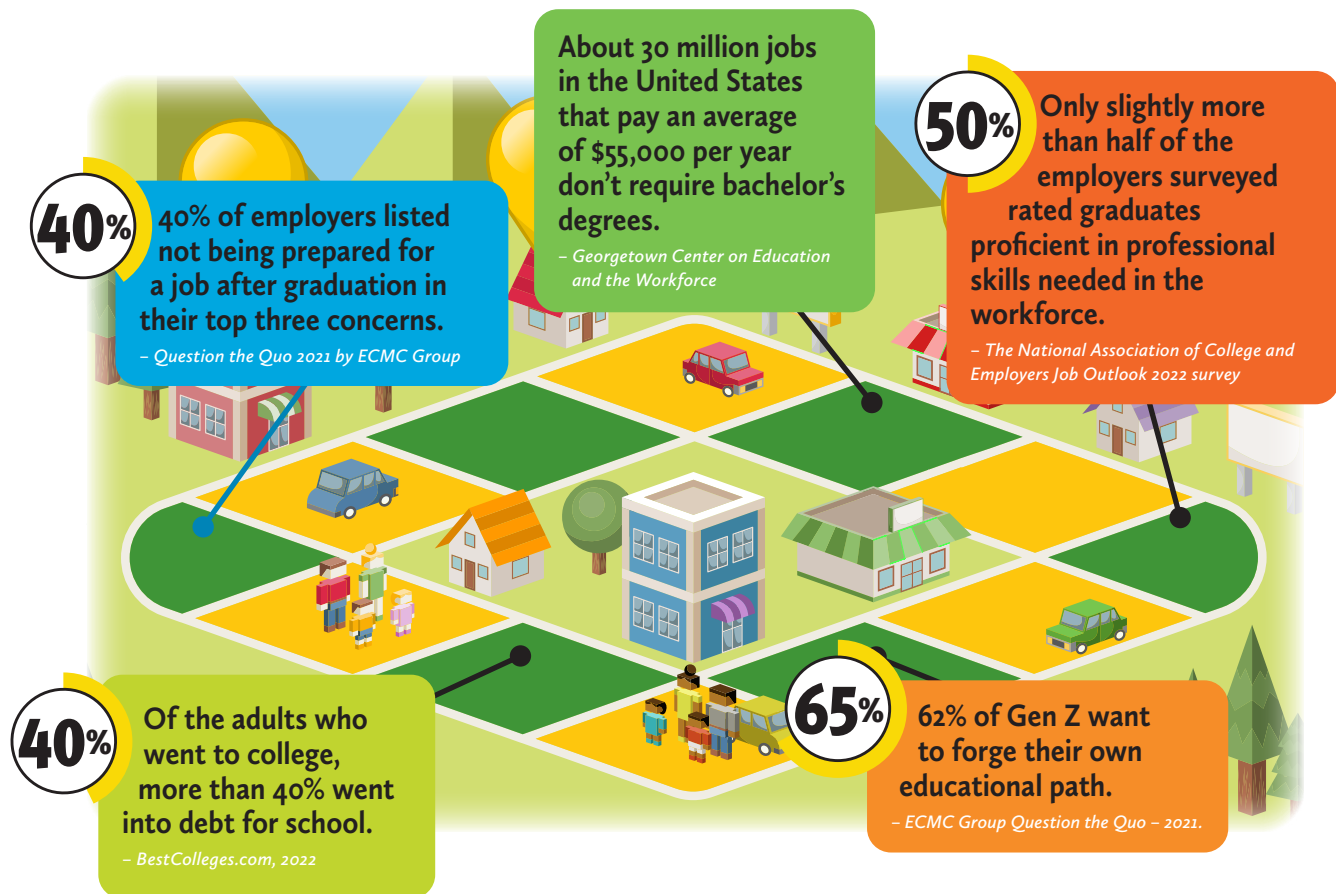
- Engineering & Technology
- Science & Math

## Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

- Transportation Operations
- Logistics, Planning & Management Services
- Warehousing & Distribution Center Operations
- Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance
- Transportation Systems & Infrastructure Planning, Management & Regulation
- Health, Safety & Environmental Management
- Sales & Service

# Begin planning now

**Know what you want!** *Planning puts you on the path to success.*



## Top in-demand occupations in southwestern Ohio

In-demand jobs provide a sustainable wage and a promising future based on the projected number of openings and growth. The education requirements for each vary from a high school diploma to graduate college degrees. Find out more at [topjobs.Ohio.gov](http://topjobs.Ohio.gov).



Job Title	Education needed	Salary Range
Licensed Practical Nurses	Diploma, Certification + License	\$37,090 - \$59,870
Medical Assistants	Diploma + Certification	\$28,890 - \$45,750
Medical Secretaries	Diploma + Certificate or Associate Degree	\$28,690 - \$47,240
Registered Nurses	Associate or Bachelor's Degree + License	\$59,540 - \$94,690
Construction Laborers	Diploma, On-the-Job Training, Apprenticeship	\$29,330 - \$74,870
Electricians	Diploma, On-the-Job Training, Apprenticeship + Certification	\$37,020 - \$80,040
Heavy/Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	Diploma, On-the-Job Training + Certification	\$29,210 - \$66,760
Financial Managers	Certificate after College or Bachelor's Degree	\$77,040 - \$160,060
Childcare Workers	Diploma + Certificate or Associate Degree	\$19,450 - \$33,900
Software/Applications Developers	Bachelor's Degree	\$64,470 - \$168,570

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, OMJ In-Demand Jobs, and Occupational Outlook Handbook, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services



# Introduction to Great Oaks

One option you have is to explore potential careers – and even earn professional credentials – while you're in high school through the Great Oaks Career Campuses. The next few pages show some Great Oaks programs available for high school students.

Great Oaks is a high school for students of 36 districts in southwest Ohio. At Great Oaks, students choose elective courses based on their career interests. The classrooms are high-tech career labs that give students hands-on opportunities to learn real-world career and professional skills. Engineering Technologies students work with robotic machines, Culinary students spend half their day in a kitchen, Veterinary Assisting students care for animals, Heavy Equipment students operate machinery on dig sites, and more.

At Great Oaks, you'll gain:

- ➔ **Experience.** Learn, practice and do what you'll be doing in a future career.
- ➔ **Contacts.** Meet and network with industry professionals.
- ➔ **Internships.** Real-life work experiences help you discover if this is the career for you.
- ➔ **Credentials.** Earn professional credentials to give you a head start.
- ➔ **Confidence.** Know that you're preparing for the career you want.
- ➔ **Connections.** Work with, and spend time with, other students with the same interests.
- ➔ **Purpose.** Choose and get ready for a meaningful career.



There are four campuses:

- **Diamond Oaks** on the west side of Cincinnati
- **Laurel Oaks** in Wilmington
- **Live Oaks** in Milford
- **Scarlet Oaks** in Sharonville

At these campuses, you may choose from more than 30 programs, which are described on the following pages. You complete them in your junior and senior year as you prepare for continuing education, the workplace, and/or the military.

*For a complete listing of programs by campus, see page 33.*



# Dental Assisting

Dental assistants support dentists. They may prepare patients for treatment, sterilize instruments, assist the dentist during procedures, take x-rays, make impressions, and keep dental patient records. Some dental assistants may work in labs. In this program, you'll be able to take the Certified Ohio Dental Assistant exam and begin working right away—or have the skills you need to continue on in school to become a dental hygienist; some Great Oaks graduates plan to become dentists.

Available at: Laurel, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Dental assistant

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Dental receptionist
- Specialty dental assistant
- Lab technologist
- Dental hygienist
- Expanded function dental hygienist
- Dentist
- Dental sales rep

## Is this YOU?

- I am friendly
- I am organized
- I love science
- I like to make people smile



# Exercise Science & Sports Medicine

Learn prevention, recognition, rehabilitation and treatment of various injuries. You'll also develop exercise and nutrition programming, and learn the skills to perform fitness testing and health appraisals. Through certifications, you can become a personal trainer or physical therapy aide directly after high school. You may also choose to continue your education to become a licensed athletic trainer, physical therapist, or physician's assistant.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Personal trainer
- Physical therapy aide

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Physical therapist assistant
- Respiratory therapist
- Athletic trainer
- Occupational therapist assistant
- Chiropractor
- Medical massage therapist

## Is this YOU?

- I am patient
- I am personable
- I like to see people get better
- I am good with my hands



# Health Academy

The Health Academy allows you to explore health career fields. First, you learn fundamental skills and build your medical vocabulary, while preparing for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) accreditation. Then choose one of two pathways: Health Technology and prepare for certification as a patient care technician, medical assistant or phlebotomist – *or* – Practical Nursing (if eligible) where you will learn in a real-world clinical setting and prepare to take the National Council Licensure Exam.

Available at: Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- CNA
- Patient care technician
- Licensed practical nurse (LPN)
- Phlebotomist

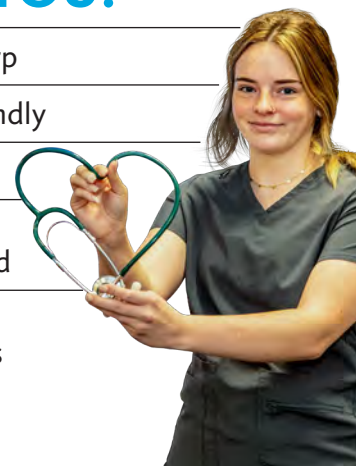
## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Home health aide
- Medical assistant
- Nursing assistant
- Nurse practitioner
- Pharmacy assistant
- Registered nurse
- X-ray technician

## Is this YOU?

- I am sharp
- I am friendly
- I care
- I am dedicated
- I solve problems





# Health Technology

Health Technology provides a broad-based knowledge of the health care field. You will have the opportunity to learn many technical skills, such as taking vital signs, medical terminology, body mechanics, and infection control. You can become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and can earn national certification as a patient care technician. You may also earn national certification in medical assisting or phlebotomy.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Nursing assistant
- Patient care technician
- Medical assistant
- Phlebotomist

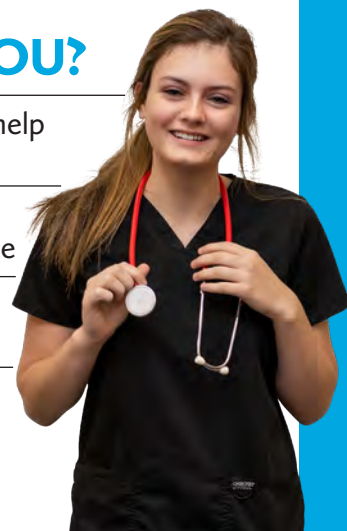
## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Home health aide
- LPN
- Pharmacy assistant
- X-ray technician
- Registered nurse
- Nurse practitioner

## Is this YOU?

- I want to help others
- I am dependable
- I am adaptable
- I am good with people



# Surgical Technology

Being organized and detail-oriented are important qualities in this program. You'll learn sterilization methods and identification of surgical instruments, supplies and equipment. You will also be able to demonstrate basic surgical care preparation skills and use medical terminology and documentation. At the end of this program you'll be eligible to take the test to become a sterile processing technician. If you decide to continue your education, you could pursue a career as a surgical technologist or surgical assistant.

Available at: Diamond, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Sterile processing

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Sterile processing technician
- Sterile processing distribution manager
- Surgical or emergency room nurse
- Surgical technician

## Is this YOU?

- I am organized
- I am detail oriented
- I am a team player
- I care



# Veterinary Assisting

A love for animals and taking care of them is key to veterinary assisting. You'll learn all aspects of working in a veterinary office, from assisting with treatment procedures to prepping for surgery, conducting lab tests, and maintaining health care records. Maintaining proper sanitation and being willing to work hard will be extremely important. Start working as a veterinary assistant or kennel staff member after high school or continue your education to pursue other careers in animal care.

Available at: Diamond, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Veterinary aide

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Groomer
- Kennel assistant
- Lab technician
- Receptionist
- Pet store worker
- Veterinary assistant
- Veterinary technician

## Is this YOU?

- I love animals
- I am compassionate
- I have stamina
- I am devoted
- I will do what it takes



# Animal Science & Management

Animal Science provides the foundation needed to work with animals. You will learn about nutrition, disease prevention and treatment, and how to care for and handle a wide variety of animals. You'll also learn essential business management and customer service skills. This program can prepare you to work in a veterinary hospital, pet store, grooming salon, lab research facility, kennel, or animal training facility.

Available at: Laurel, Live

## ↓ START HERE

- Pet shop employee
- Grooming bather/brusher
- Kennel assistant
- Veterinary assistant

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Biologist/zoologist
- Kennel manager
- Laboratory animal caretaker
- Pet stylist
- Veterinarian
- Veterinary technician

## Is this YOU?

- I love animals
- I have good physical stamina
- I like to work flexible hours
- I am self-motivated



# Equine Science & Management

Learn to ride, train, care for, and work with horses. You'll learn proper stable management and nutrition, plus the use and maintenance of tack, tools, and equipment. You'll study disease prevention. And, to expand your career opportunities, you'll gain skills in basic management principles and the efficient operation of horse-related businesses.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel

## ↓ START HERE

- Assistant trainer

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Administration
- Farm manager
- Riding instructor
- Show/sales manager
- Trainer
- Vet technician

## Is this YOU?

- Horses are my passion
- I love the outdoors
- I like flexible hours
- I am not afraid of hard work



# Park & Recreation Management

This program will teach you how to create and manage public parks and green spaces. You'll learn about trees and how to care for them, as well as how to manage wildlife and protect natural resources. You'll also study business and marketing to understand how to run a successful park or recreation facility. You'll practice using tools like chainsaws and ropes for tree care, and you'll learn about environmental regulations and safety procedures. You will be prepared to design, operate, and maintain public recreational spaces.

Available at: Live

## ↓ START HERE

- Forest conservation worker
- Park maintenance/repair
- Wildlife care assistant

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Environmental educator
- Forester
- Park naturalist
- Park operations director
- Park ranger
- Trails manager
- Wildlife biologist

## Is this YOU?

- I'm passionate about the environment
- I love to work outdoors
- I want to make a difference
- I am a creative problem-solver





# Digital Arts & Design

You will be introduced to a wide variety of design-related careers—graphic design, web design, photography, illustration, video production, and animation. You will learn how to create visual communications through problem-solving and using the elements and principles of design. You will be trained in numerous design software applications, including Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, to become an Adobe Certified Associate.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Production designer

## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Animator
- Graphic designer
- Illustrator
- Photographer
- Video producer

## Is this YOU?

- I am disciplined
- I am inquisitive
- I am creative
- I am detail-oriented
- I can take criticism



# Information Technology / IT Academy

Is technology your passion? Join an IT program at Great Oaks, and learn information technology fundamentals, web design, programming, networking, and database administration. Then choose your path: Study the emerging field of cybersecurity or dive deep into programming and coding application design. Participation in IT Programs provide students with the opportunities to earn college credit through Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs).

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Computer technician
- Database specialist
- Help desk technician
- Networking technician
- Program developer

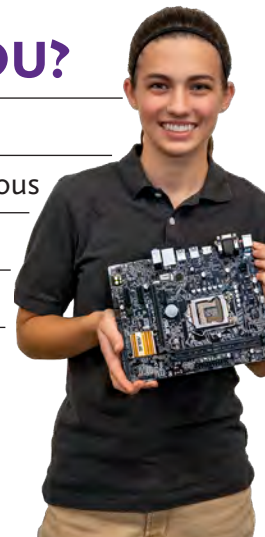
## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Information security specialist
- Mobile device repair technician
- Networking technician
- Systems engineer
- Telecommunications
- Wiring and cabling installer

## Is this YOU?

- I am patient
- I am meticulous
- I am logical
- I am curious
- I am a techie



# Alternative/Electric Vehicle Technician

The Alternative/Electric Vehicle Technician program is an exciting new exploration of technology in motion. The program prepares students for careers in manufacturing, installing and maintaining alternative and electric power sources for everything from electric bikes and scooters to forklifts, cars, SUVs, buses and even semi-trucks. Students will focus on AC/DC current drives and mechanisms in the first year, and then pneumatics and hydraulics with a capstone project of building an electric vehicle during senior year.

Available at: Laurel

## ↓ START HERE

- Manufacturing operator

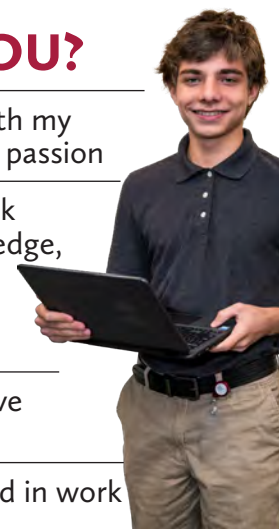
## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Battery and charger technician
- EV bike and recreational vehicle technician
- MHE & forklift technician
- Manufacturing assembler
- Parts/equipment sales, service rental and management

## Is this YOU?

- Working with my hands is my passion
- I like to work on cutting-edge, electric-powered equipment
- I like to solve problems
- I am detailed in work



# Automotive Refinishing & Collision Repair

Steady hands, mechanical skill, and an artistic eye are all important in the field of automotive collision technology. Here you'll learn to repair, replace and refinish auto bodies. You'll replace glass, paint, weld metal, and do final detailing and customizing. You'll even learn to prepare estimates. With that knowledge, you can earn the certification to be a collision technician and do auto body and frame repair, painting, and finishing. Learn more about the field at I-Car.com.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Auto body assistant
- Painter's assistant

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Collision technician
- Detailer
- Estimator
- Painter
- Parts specialist
- Refinishing assistant

## Is this YOU?

- I love cars
- I have mechanical aptitude
- I am creative
- I have a good eye



# Automotive Service Technician

In the hands of a skilled technician, a smooth-running engine is a beautiful sound. Use the latest equipment and tools to diagnose and repair engines, brakes, and electrical systems, and perform vehicle maintenance. When you learn automotive technology from air conditioners to exhaust systems, you can earn ASE certifications. These certifications provide the foundation needed to begin a career as an automotive technician or diagnostician in a dealership, garage, or repair shop.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Automotive technician

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Assistant service manager
- Dealership technician
- Entrepreneur (run your own shop)
- Entry level technician
- Parts specialist
- Service advisor
- Shop foreman
- Service manager
- Tire/lube technician

## Is this YOU?

- I love cars
- I have mechanical aptitude
- I pay attention to detail
- I have a good eye



# Aviation Exploration

This program is an exciting two-year journey that prepares students for careers in managing all things flight – from the ground to the cockpit. Master drones by earning an FAA Commercial Drone Operator's License, delve into the intricacies of airport management, and gain invaluable hands-on experience toward earning a portion of the FAA Airframe and Powerplant certificate, a steppingstone to becoming an aircraft maintenance expert.

Available at: Live

## ↓ START HERE

- Aircraft refueler or deicer
- Aviation security
- UAV aerial photography
- UAV operator/pilot

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Airframe technician
- Airport administrator
- Avionics technician
- Flight dispatcher
- Flight operations manager
- Ramp agent

## Is this YOU?

- Planes are my passion
- I am precise
- I like to work on a team
- I like to solve problems



# Aviation Maintenance Technician

As an aviation technician, it's your job to make sure every flight is safe and successful. From small planes to jumbo jets, proper maintenance, repair, and upkeep is essential. In the Aviation Maintenance Technician program, you'll learn about airframes, hydraulic and pneumatic systems, communication systems, engines, basic welding, and more. You can earn FAA Airframe Certification and start working right away, or continue and earn additional FAA certifications/training.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel

## ↓ START HERE

- FAA-certified airframe mechanic

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Corporate aviation technician
- General aviation technician
- Parts manager
- Private aviation technician

## Is this YOU?

- I am precise
- I am accurate
- Planes are my passion
- I am mechanical



# Commercial & Residential Electricity

Working with electricity is much more than installing wiring. You'll learn to read and interpret prints and building plans, install and troubleshoot motor controls, use hand tools and power tools, and use programmable logic controllers. Our lives depend on electricity, and electricians put together systems that power the smallest homes and largest buildings, and make everything operate – from smartphones to entire communities.

Available at: Diamond, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Electrician helper

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Electrical apprentice
- Electrical engineer
- Electrical journeyman
- Electrician
- Estimator
- Lineman
- Project manager
- Supply house worker

## Is this YOU?

- I figure things out
- I use my head
- I work well with my hands
- I sweat the details



# Construction Technologies

A well-built building is the result of skilled professionals in construction, plumbing, and electricity. When you gain experience in all of these fields, you'll be ready for a wide range of in-demand careers in the construction industry. You'll have the chance to master a wide range of hand tools and power tools, read blueprints and plans, and be part of a skilled team.

Available at: Laurel

## ↓ START HERE

- Carpenter

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Building inspector
- Cabinet maker
- Carpentry subcontractor
- Construction superintendent
- Equipment operator
- Foreman
- Laborer

## Is this YOU?

- I have a good eye
- I work well with my hands
- I enjoy seeing the results of my work
- I solve problems





# Engineering Technologies & Robotics

With access to the RAMTEC lab and a wealth of dedicated engineering time, students learn 3D design and assembly, manufacturing techniques, industrial safety, electronics, programmable logic controllers and automation, and industrial robotic simulation and programming. Much of the class centers on project-based activities designed to provide challenging problems that allow students time to practice and refine their precision, logic, and critical thinking skills.

Available at: Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- 3D designer
- Controls technician
- Robotic programmer

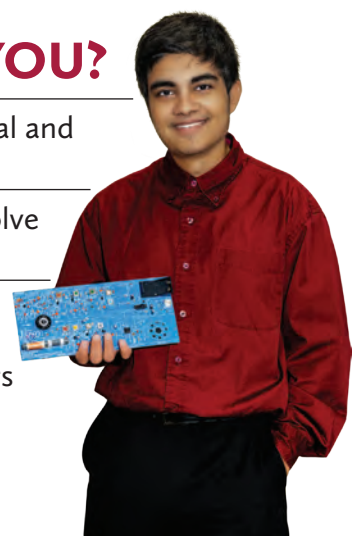
## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Automation specialist
- CNC programmer
- Electrical engineer
- Mechanical engineer
- Programmer
- Project manager
- Robotic technician

## Is this YOU?

- I am logical and analytical
- I like to solve problems
- I like to figure out how things work



# Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning

Everyone enjoys the comfort that comes from heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer. Having the ability to design, install, test, and repair heating and air conditioning systems is essential – and it's a profession that's in demand. You'll learn to work with sheet metal, motors, and wiring. You will build ductwork, learn to solder and braze copper, troubleshoot HVAC systems, and gain the skills to start a career in this lucrative field.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- HVAC technician

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Appliance repair technician
- Apprentice
- Design or product engineer
- Green energy specialist
- HVAC installation/service tech
- HVAC owner/operator
- Project/job estimator
- Sales
- Service manager
- Sheet metal fabricator

## Is this YOU?

- I take pride in my work
- I am mechanical
- I am trustworthy
- I am dependable in any kind of weather



# Heavy Equipment Operations & Engineering

Great buildings, parks, neighborhoods, roads and homes depend on a properly prepared site. Heavy Equipment Operations and Engineering will teach you to use and maintain a wide range of equipment. You'll also learn why and how to create landscapes that support lasting structures. You'll operate earth-moving equipment under actual working conditions and repair and maintain the electrical, hydraulic, and engine systems that make them go.

Available at: Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Equipment operator

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Apprentice
- Crane operator
- Equipment salesperson
- Forklift operator
- Landscaper
- Project estimator
- Site engineer
- Truck driver
- Underground utility installer

## Is this YOU?

- I am a mover
- I like technology
- I have great hand/eye coordination
- I am systematic





# Industrial Diesel Mechanics

In this program, you will learn how to be a diesel mechanic. That includes all the skills you need to troubleshoot and perform engine repair and maintenance, as well as drive train, brakes, chassis and other components of a diesel vehicle. You will have the opportunity to earn several industry certifications that will allow you to begin working as a service technician right away. You may also decide to continue your education to be qualified for other jobs in this industry, including management and sales.

Available at: Laurel, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Mechanic

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Alternative fuel vehicle technician
- Equipment salesperson
- Industrial maintenance technician
- Service writer/manager
- Transportation supervisor

## Is this YOU?

- I am mechanical
- I am a systematic thinker
- Engines fire me up
- I don't mind getting my hands dirty



# Manufacturing Engineering Technology

In the 21st century, manufacturing is a combination of engineering, technology, and hand/eye coordination. Creating parts and products may require you to program a Computer Numeric Control (CNC) machine or use a 3-D printer. In CNC Advanced Manufacturing Technologies, you will learn the technical skills that are in demand in southwest Ohio and across the country.

Available at: Live

## ↓ START HERE

- CNC operator/programmer
- Tool room
- Inspector
- Set-up person
- Mill operator
- Lathe operator

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Bench hand
- Engineer
- Quality control technician
- Tool room supervisor
- Tool set-up technician

## Is this YOU?

- Technology fires my imagination
- I am visual
- I am precise
- I enjoy science
- I am mechanical



# Welding & Fabrication

Precision and excellent hand/eye coordination are important for the welding program. You'll learn various types of welding and cutting operations, as well as fabrication, quality control, and weld testing. You will even learn to read and interpret blueprints. Through this program you will have the opportunity to become a certified welder. Other career pathways might include welding inspector, metal fabricator, or sales.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Welder

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Aerospace welder
- Construction welder
- Custom/specialty welder
- Pipeline construction welder
- Service technician
- Welding inspector
- Welding supplier

## Is this YOU?

- I am mechanical
- I have a good eye
- I have good eye-hand coordination
- I am precise
- I have strong math skills



# Cosmetology

Do you want to bring out the best in people? If you're an artist who wants to use your creativity to help others look their best, come to Great Oaks for cosmetology. You'll learn to cut, perm, relax, style, color, and highlight hair. You'll develop business skills to build a clientele, keep records, and schedule appointments. You'll give manicures, pedicures, and facials. And, you'll have the chance to earn your license to begin your career right away.

Available at: Diamond, Laurel, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Hair stylist

## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Aesthetician
- Color consultant/specialist
- Make-up consultant
- Nail technician
- Platform artist
- Salon manager
- Salon owner

## Is this YOU?

- I am creative
- I am organized
- I like science
- I bring the best out in people
- I am an artist



# Culinary Arts & Hospitality Services

If creativity and food go together for you, then this is a logical choice. Learn to plan, prepare, and serve beautiful and delicious meals as well as the business side of operating a commercial kitchen. Learn to use popular cooking methods and create, write, and understand recipes and menus. You'll also learn to properly use and maintain hand tools and commercial kitchen and bakery equipment, and have the chance to earn certifications to get started in your career.

Available at: Diamond, Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Cook

## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Caterer
- Chef – sous chef, chef de cuisine, executive chef, personal chef
- Dietitian
- Event planner
- Food scientist
- Food stylist
- Food truck operator
- Hospitality management
- Line cook
- Restaurant owner

## Is this YOU?

- I am creative
- People can rely on me
- I can stand the heat
- I can wear many hats



# Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education provides an opportunity to work directly with children from birth through age 8. You will learn aspects of child development. You will learn to create and implement lesson plans that align with Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards. The certifications you can receive in this program will allow you to start working as an early childhood professional right away. You'll be prepared to continue your education to become a primary teacher or special needs instructor.

Available at: Live, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Preschool assistant
- Preschool teacher
- Early childhood teacher

## GO HERE ↓

with more education & experience

- Child psychologist
- Childcare provider
- Early childhood center director
- Elementary teacher
- Intervention specialist
- Social worker

## Is this YOU?

- I am a planner
- I am organized
- I am self-motivated
- I can work with individuals and groups
- I am a teacher



# Firefighting/Emergency Medical Service

Train to become a professional fire fighter and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Through your training, you will learn such technical skills as rescue, fire prevention and suppression, and the proper use and maintenance of tools and equipment. As a certified fire fighter/EMT, you can begin working in the industry immediately after high school. You will also have the foundation to continue your education in a fire science or paramedic program.

Available at: Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Firefighter/EMT

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Fire investigator
- Fire officer
- Fire safety inspector
- Paramedic
- Rescue technician

## Is this YOU?

- I am strong
- I work well under pressure
- I like helping people
- I am quick on my feet



# Law Enforcement

Learn many aspects of law enforcement. This includes technical skills like responding to civil emergencies and traffic patrol as well as understanding private security and the role of a peace officer. You will study Ohio Revised Code and will learn to develop cultural sensitivity. You will have the opportunity to earn numerous certifications so you can begin working right after high school in jobs like private security or police dispatch. You may also choose to continue your training to become a police officer.

Available at: Laurel, Scarlet

## ↓ START HERE

- Private security officer

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Corrections officer
- Detective
- Loss prevention agent
- Military police
- Police dispatcher
- Police officer

## Is this YOU?

- I want to help people
- I am in good physical condition
- I am an upstanding citizen



## How successful are Great Oaks graduates?

The Ohio Department of Education has established Performance Measures for career and technical planning districts, such as Great Oaks, that provide career and technical education. The measures help the districts to continually improve their programs and services.

### Performance Measures for Class of 2023

# 93.6%

of the class of 2023  
are working and/or pursuing  
further education

(Positive Post Program Placement)

# 18.6%

of the class of 2023 earned  
an honors diploma

# 53.6%

of the class of 2023  
were enrolled in a  
class that offered college credit





# Satellite Programs

Great Oaks offers career-technical programs at affiliated school districts. Students can benefit from the rigorous education offered through career-technical programs without leaving their current school.

Programs range from career orientation and exploration programs that provide a foundation in a number of fields to workforce development programs in business, information technology, marketing, teaching professions, and other paths.

Many programs offer students the opportunity to gain practical work experience through internships at area businesses.

Students in Great Oaks satellite programs have earned national recognition in marketing, business, and teaching, and finish high school ready for careers and college.

The following eight programs are workforce development programs; a complete listing of all satellite programs and where they are offered can be found on page 31.



## Construction Technologies

A well-built building is the result of skilled professionals in construction, plumbing, and electricity. When you gain experience in all of these fields, you'll be ready for a wide range of in-demand careers in the construction industry. You'll have the chance to master a wide range of hand tools and power tools, read blueprints and plans, and be part of a skilled team.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

### ↓ START HERE

- Carpenter

### GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Electrician
- Engineer
- Foreman
- Plumber

### Is this YOU?

- I have a good eye
- I work well with my hands
- I enjoy seeing the results of my work
- I solve problems

## Project Lead the Way – Engineering

From launching space explorations to delivering safe water to communities, engineers find solutions to pressing problems and turn their ideas into reality. This course empowers students to step into the role of an engineer, adopt a problem-solving mindset, and make the leap from dreamers to doers. Students engage in compelling, real-world challenges that help them become better collaborators and thinkers. Students gain in-demand knowledge and skills they will use in any career path they take.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

### ↓ START HERE

- Engineering Technician
- Manufacturing Technician

### GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Electrical engineer
- Mechanical engineer
- Robotics engineer

### Is this YOU?

- I am detail-oriented
- I am a problem solver
- I like figuring out how things work
- I am logical



# Welding

Precision and excellent hand/eye coordination are important for the welding program. You'll learn various types of welding and cutting operations, as well as fabrication, quality control, and weld testing. You will even learn to read and interpret blueprints. Through this program you will have the opportunity to become a certified welder. Other career pathways might include welding inspector, metal fabricator, or sales.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

## ↓ START HERE

- Welder

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Aerospace welder
- Construction welder
- Custom/specialty welder
- Pipeline construction welder
- Service technician
- Underwater welder
- Welding inspector
- Welding supplier

## Is this YOU?

- I am mechanical
- I have good eye-hand coordination
- I am precise
- I have strong math skills

# Business Management

This program provides a broad exposure to business operations, finance, marketing, and human resources for students interested in pursuing a career in those fields. Courses employ business problems and projects that involve real world applications. Students will have opportunities to communicate with local business professionals through speakers, field trips, and as mentors. Seniors will participate in an internship that could give them a jump start on a career. Enrollment in a business course is required to participate in a business club, BPA or DECA.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

## ↓ START HERE

- Bookkeeping and accounting clerk
- Human resource assistant
- Receptionist

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Advertising manager
- Human resource specialist
- Office manager

## Is this YOU?

- I enjoy working with other people
- I enjoy public speaking and debate
- I have thought about owning my own business
- I like to plan and organize activities

# Financial Services

This program provides a solid foundation of Accounting, Business, and Finance. Courses employ business problems and projects with real world applications. Students will have opportunities to communicate with local business professionals through speakers, field trips, and mentors. Seniors will have the opportunity to participate in an internship that could jump start them on a career. Enrollment in a business course is required to participate in a business club, BPA or DECA.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

## ↓ START HERE

- Accountant

## GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Auditor
- Compensation and benefits manager
- Personal financial manager
- Sales manager

## Is this YOU?

- I am imaginative
- I am friendly and outgoing
- I enjoy working with numbers
- I am good at organizing my time

## Agricultural Science

Have you considered raising plants and animals as sources of food or shelter? How about working to conserve our natural resources to protect the environment? What about programming drones and machinery to automate the planting and spraying process? Or researching the effects of chemicals on your food? Agricultural Science provides you experiences in all aspects of agriculture. Whether it be working with animals, horticulture, mechanical technology, natural management or drones, you can choose your path for success.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

### ↓ START HERE

- Animal caretaker
- Farm worker
- Food production
- Nursery worker

### GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Conservation scientist
- Farmer
- Food safety inspector/scientist
- Veterinarian

### Is this YOU?

- I enjoy working outdoors
- I am committed
- I have a green thumb
- I like working with my hands

## Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Science

PLTW Biomedical Science students are taking on these same real-world challenges – and they're doing it before they even graduate from high school. Working with the same tools used by professionals in hospitals and labs, students engage in compelling, hands-on activities and work together to find solutions to problems. Students take from the courses in-demand knowledge and skills they will use in high school and for the rest of their lives in any career path they take.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

### ↓ START HERE

- Dental laboratory technician
- Pharmacy aide
- Physical therapist aide

### GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Family and general practitioner
- Medical laboratory technician
- Physical therapist
- Pharmacist

### Is this YOU?

- I enjoy science classes
- I want to help others
- I am good with people
- I am dependable

## Teaching Professions

Have you thought of being a high school math teacher or a middle school science teacher? This course provides experiences that support your path to becoming teacher. You will learn how to prepare and deliver lessons using Ohio's State Standards, along with understanding school structure and having an awareness of the challenges facing schools today. Seniors will have an internship with the opportunity to observe, plan, and teach students. Successful completion of the program will give you an opportunity to earn college credit.

*Available at:* See list on page 31

### ↓ START HERE

- Teacher aide

### GO HERE ↓

*with more education & experience*

- Education administrator
- elementary teacher
- High school teachers
- Middle school teacher

### Is this YOU?

- I like being in school
- I am a planner
- I am organized
- I can work with individuals and groups

# Middle and high school satellite programs by districts

## BATAVIA

- Business Management
- Information Technology

## BLANCHESTER

- Agricultural Science
- Business Management

## CLERMONT NORTHEASTERN

- Agricultural Science

## CLINTON MASSIE

- Agricultural Science
- Culinary Foundations
- Financial Services
- Gateway to Technology

## EAST CLINTON

- Agricultural Science
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## FAIRFIELD

- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way

## FINNEYTOWN

- Business Management

## FOREST HILLS

- Business Management
- Teaching Professions

## GOSHEN

- Career Based Intervention – SUCCESS
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## HILLSBORO

- Agricultural Science
- Welding

## INDIAN HILL

- Business Management
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## LOVELAND

- Gateway to Technology
- Information Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering
- Teaching Professions

## LYNCHBURG-CLAY

- Construction
- Gateway to Technology

## MADEIRA

- Gateway to Technology

## MARIEMONT

- Digital Arts
- Financial Services
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering



**New programs are added each year!  
The Great Oaks goal is to continually  
expand satellite offerings.**

## MASON

- Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Sciences
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering
- Teaching Professions

## MIAMI TRACE

- Agricultural Science
- Career Based Intervention
- Construction
- Digital Graphic Design
- Family Consumer Sciences
- Gateway to Technology

## MILFORD

- Career Based Intervention
- Gateway to Technology
- Business Management
- Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Sciences
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering
- Teaching Professions

## MT. HEALTHY

- Business Management
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## NORTH COLLEGE HILL

- Digital Arts
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## PRINCETON

- Business Management
- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## READING

- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## SOUTHWEST

- Financial Services
- Gateway to Technology
- Information Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Sciences
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## SYCAMORE

- Business Management
- Gateway to Technology
- Teaching Professions

## THREE RIVERS

- Financial Services
- Gateway to Technology

## WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE

- Agricultural Science
- Financial Services

## WEST CLERMONT

- Business Management
- Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Sciences
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## WILMINGTON

- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## WINTON WOODS

- Gateway to Technology
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering

## WYOMING

- Business Management

### Other satellite locations

#### CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

- Project SEARCH

#### FIFTH THIRD BANK

- Project SEARCH

#### XAVIER UNIVERSITY

- Project SEARCH



For a current listing of programs by school and more detailed descriptions of all satellite programs, please visit [hs.greatoaks.com/satellite](https://hs.greatoaks.com/satellite)



## Diamond Oaks

6375 Harrison Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45247  
513.574.1300

### Contact:

Laura Domet, Career Specialist  
513.612.7006  
dometl@greatoaks.com



## Laurel Oaks

300 Oak Drive  
Wilmington, OH 45177  
937.382.1411 or 1.800.752.5480

### Contact:

Bill Davis, Career Specialist  
937.655.5407  
davisw@greatoaks.com



## Live Oaks

5956 Buckwheat Road  
Milford, OH 45150  
513.575.1900

### Contact:

Jen Frith, Career Specialist  
513.612.4914  
frithj@greatoaks.com



## Scarlet Oaks

300 Scarlet Oaks Drive  
@3254 East Kemper Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45241  
513.771.8810

### Contact:

Abby Flaherty, Career Specialist  
513.612.5794  
flahertya@greatoaks.com





## ▼ Programs offered by campus

### DIAMOND OAKS

- Automotive Refinishing & Collision Repair
- Automotive Service Technician
- Aviation Maintenance Technician
- CareerX
- Commercial & Residential Electricity
- Construction Technologies
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality Services
- Dental Assisting
- Digital Arts & Design
- Equine Science & Management
- Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
- Health Technology
- Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning
- IT Academy
- Surgical Technology
- Veterinary Assisting
- Welding & Fabrication

### LAUREL OAKS

- Alternative/Electric Vehicle Technician
- Animal Science & Management
- Automotive Refinishing & Collision Repair
- Automotive Service Technician
- Aviation Maintenance Technician
- CareerX
- Construction Technologies
- Cosmetology
- Dental Assisting
- Digital Arts & Design
- Equine Science & Management
- Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
- Health Technology
- Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning
- Heavy Equipment Operations & Engineering
- Information Technology
- Industrial Diesel Mechanics
- Law Enforcement
- Welding & Fabrication

### LIVE OAKS

- Animal Science & Management
- Automotive Refinishing & Collision Repair
- Automotive Service Technician
- Aviation Exploration
- CareerX
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality Services
- Digital Arts & Design
- Early Childhood Education
- Park & Recreation Management
- Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
- Health Technology
- Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning
- Heavy Equipment Operations & Engineering
- IT Academy
- Manufacturing Engineering Technology
- Veterinary Assisting
- Welding & Fabrication

### SCARLET OAKS

- Automotive Refinishing & Collision Repair
- Automotive Service Technician
- Commercial & Residential Electricity
- Construction Technologies
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality Services
- Dental Assisting
- Digital Arts & Design
- Early Childhood Education
- Engineering Technologies & Robotics
- Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
- Firefighting/Emergency Medical Service
- Health Academy
- Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning
- Heavy Equipment Operations & Engineering
- Industrial Diesel Mechanics
- Information Technology
- Law Enforcement
- Surgical Technology
- Veterinary Assisting
- Welding & Fabrication

## Affiliated high schools

Anderson  
 Batavia  
 Blanchester  
 Clermont Northeastern  
 Clinton-Massie  
 Deer Park  
 East Clinton  
 Fairfield (Highland Co.)  
 Finneytown  
 Goshen  
 Hillsboro  
 Indian Hill  
 Lockland  
 Loveland  
 Lynchburg-Clay  
 Madeira  
 Mariemont  
 Mason  
 McClain  
 Miami Trace  
 Milford  
 Mt. Healthy  
 North College Hill  
 Norwood  
 Oak Hills  
 Princeton  
 Reading  
 St. Bernard-Elmwood Place  
 Sycamore  
 Taylor  
 Turpin  
 Washington Court House  
 West Clermont  
 William Henry Harrison  
 Wilmington  
 Winton Woods  
 Wyoming

# Questions and answers about Great Oaks

## I'm not sure what career I want to pursue. Why should I go to Great Oaks?

Many students are interested in particular career fields, but aren't sure if that's what they want to do with their lives. Great Oaks gives students the chance to explore a career before they go to college – a much less expensive option than deciding to change programs after a year or more of college. Of course, many students also discover that the Great Oaks career program they've chosen is right for them. Many graduates can immediately begin good careers or continue in apprenticeship programs.

## I want to go to college. Is that possible if I go to Great Oaks?

Yes! Many Great Oaks graduates go directly to college, often with college credit they earned during high school. For instance, College Credit Plus courses are taught by college-certified instructors on Great Oaks campuses.

Students who successfully complete specified technical courses are eligible to have technical credits transferred to public colleges and universities in Ohio. More information about this opportunity can be found at [bit.ly/OhioHigherEd](http://bit.ly/OhioHigherEd).

Many Great Oaks students have found that, with the certificates they have earned, employers will pay for college or continuing education.

## What if I want to do activities at my high school?

Students are encouraged to continue to participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities at their current schools. They can also participate in leadership activities at Great Oaks through career-technical student organizations, Junior ROTC, and National Technical Honor Society.

## Great Oaks *is right for you.*

- You like to make new friends.
- You want to learn with people who have the same career interests.
- You want a chance to meet others in academic classes and other activities.



## Will I graduate from Great Oaks?

Upon graduation, your diploma will be issued by your high school at your high school graduation. Great Oaks does not issue the diploma. However, we do have a special end of year ceremony for each campus where you will receive a career passport containing all of the other things that you earned while at Great Oaks such as career industry certifications, credentials, college credits, and a resume highlighting your career experience and accomplishments.

The Honors Diploma and Career-Technical Honors Diploma are available for high-achieving students who qualify. Talk to a Great Oaks counselor or go to [hs.greatoaks.com/honors-diploma](http://hs.greatoaks.com/honors-diploma) to learn more.

## How does Great Oaks help a student successfully connect with job opportunities?

Students who meet requirements are eligible for work-based learning opportunities in their career program. These experiences often lead to full-time employment after graduation. After graduation, students may also contact Great Oaks Career Services for employment leads.



## Is transportation provided to the campuses?

Affiliate schools typically provide transportation to their nearest Great Oaks campus. Students may also drive to school, and parking is free. Ask your child's current school counselor any questions you may have about transportation.

## Does Great Oaks provide programs for students with special needs?

Yes, Great Oaks programs are open to students with special needs. Intervention Specialists support and coordinate services between the student, parent, home school, other agencies, and related personnel, and Great Oaks staff as outlined in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The Great Oaks staff focuses on developing employability skills, content knowledge, and student independence to ensure students are successful and prepared for the industry's credentials and requirements.

## Where can I get more details about the skills and aptitudes needed for each program at Great Oaks?

You can download individual pages on the website at [greatoaks.com/infographics](http://greatoaks.com/infographics). These pages will help you discover more about the personalities and traits that match with each career pathway.



VIEW Program  
Infographics  
[greatoaks.com/  
infographics](http://greatoaks.com/infographics)



## How can Great Oaks save me money?

### Free training.

\*Great Oaks high school programs could cost thousands if I take them after graduation.



### College credits.

\*Agreements with local universities that give eligible students college credit or advance standing for classes completed at Great Oaks can save a lot of tuition money.



### Apprenticeship credits.

\*I could move up a level or 2 on the journeyman's pay scale based on my Great Oaks experience.



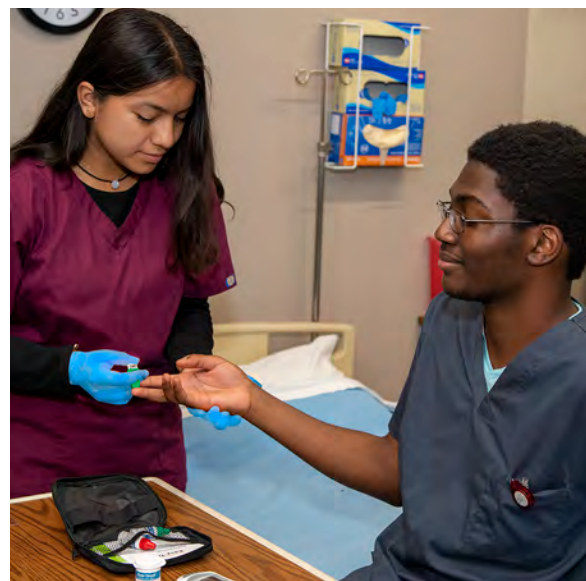
### Industry certification.

\*Great Oaks pays for my first exam - plus getting certification now puts me ahead of my peers.



## What will my day be like?

You will spend 2.5 hours in your career program. The remainder of the day is spent completing academic coursework. The required courses are determined by your career program and your plan for graduation based on district and state requirements.





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### Diamond Oaks Campus

6375 Harrison Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45247

513.574.1300

Career Specialist: Laura Domet

513.612.7006 • [dometl@greatoaks.com](mailto:dometl@greatoaks.com)

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### Laurel Oaks Campus

300 Oak Drive

Wilmington, OH 45177

937.382.1411 or 1.800.752.5480

Career Specialist: Bill Davis

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### Live Oaks Campus

5956 Buckwheat Road

Milford, OH 45150

513.575.1900

Career Specialist: Jen Frith

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### Scarlet Oaks Campus

300 Scarlet Oaks Drive

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### District Office

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