

## 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.

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

Program	Location
Animal Science & Management	Laurel, Live
Equine Science & Management	Diamond, Laurel
Park and Recreation Management	Live
Veterinary Assisting	Diamond, Live, Scarlet

## Next Ready Skills

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.

Effective Communicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Express/explain thoughts/ideas individually and in groups</li> <li>Write/document/record information accurately</li> <li>Listen/relay accurate information in written/verbal manner</li> <li>Read and interpret technical/medical information</li> <li>Understand and reference diagrams/charts/anatomical information</li> <li>Practice professional social communication (social media/workplace conversations)</li> </ul>
Critical Thinker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop/follow sequenced activities accurately</li> <li>Determine courses of action and treatment options</li> <li>Make informed decisions quickly and remain calm in stressful situations</li> <li>Perceive distance/depth of objects in space</li> </ul>
Adaptable Navigator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognize/anticipate/respond to animal behaviors that could lead to injuries</li> <li>Restrain animals in a manner that prevents injuries (human/animal)</li> <li>Respond appropriately in changing situations</li> <li>Learn to work with various species/breeds of animals</li> </ul>
Accountable Employee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be on time and keep commitments</li> <li>Follow ethical work practices including honesty/trustworthiness</li> <li>Deliver/follow professional animal care standards</li> <li>Participate in class/lab activities/discussions/work rotations</li> <li>Connect/network with industry professionals</li> </ul>
Skilled Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work independently with minimal supervision</li> <li>Provide effective customer service</li> <li>Collaborate with others to perform animal care duties</li> <li>Develop a career path plan</li> <li>Build career-focused technical/professional skills</li> </ul>

## Technology and Software

All career & technical education programs utilize various software and industry-specific equipment to prepare students for their 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 knowledge and skills. They are typically earned by successfully completing an exam or skill-related 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. Available accommodations are subject to vendor and/or State of Ohio approval. Some credential/certification exams do not allow any accommodations. Contact campus Intervention Specialist for the most up-to-date permitted accommodations.

Permitted accommodations may 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 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"><li>• Anatomy/biology/science</li><li>• Math (ratios/unit conversions/measurements of various types/elapsed time)</li><li>• Oral/written communication</li></ul>
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Safety/allergens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Select/use personal protective equipment (PPEs) as necessary</li><li>• All programs work with live animals<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Horses</li><li>▪ Cats/dogs</li><li>▪ Rodents/rabbits</li><li>▪ Birds</li><li>▪ Reptiles</li></ul></li><li>• All programs use various chemicals for sanitation/sterilizing</li><li>• All programs use various types of bedding (straw/cedar and wood chips/paper)</li></ul>
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Physical demands/work environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stoop/bend/walk/carry items safely</li><li>• Use equipment/lead small and large animals</li><li>• Use fine motor skills (weighing small animals/restraining animals)</li><li>• Lift and carry heavy objects (up to 50 pounds)</li><li>• Hold/restrain animals during examinations</li></ul>
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Career expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepare labels/samples for laboratory examination</li><li>• Clean/sanitize exam rooms/equipment/growing areas</li><li>• Prepare medical reports/treatments delivered/care recommendations</li><li>• Assist with euthanizing/disposal of animals</li><li>• Prepare veterinary treatment instruments/supplies/medications</li><li>• Bathe/clip nails/cut/brush animal hair/fur</li><li>• Maintain safe/sanitary habitats for various types of animals/plants</li><li>• Exercise animals/provide companionship</li><li>• Notice/quickly respond to animal disposition/changes in behaviors</li><li>• Able to comprehend potential hazards (animals/diseases/chemicals)</li><li>• Distinguish details/differences visually</li><li>• Differentiate various sounds</li></ul>
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