

SENIOR CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES



In this handbook you will find:

- Graduation Requirements and SCHS Details
- Career & Military information
- Networking Tips
- Using Naviance
- Financial Aid (for technical/career training schools)
- A List of Helpful Websites

For more information, please visit The South Carroll Counseling Center website at <https://sch.carrollk12.org/counseling>

Graduation Requirements for Class of 2026 and Beyond

Credit Requirements: A minimum of 25 credits must be earned to meet graduation requirements. Many of these credits are required in specific areas as outlined in the chart below.

NOTE: This chart may be subject to change pending any State (MSDE) revisions to graduation requirements.

Subject	Required Credits	Required Courses
English	4	-English 9 -English 10 <i>or</i> English 10: AP Seminar -English 11 <i>or</i> AP Language and Composition <i>and/or</i> AP Seminar -English 12 <i>or</i> AP Literature and Composition <i>and/or</i> AP Research* (AP Seminar <i>or</i> AP Language and Composition may be taken as well)
Social Studies	3	-Government <i>or</i> AP United States Government and Politics -United States History <i>or</i> AP United States History -World History <i>or</i> AP World History
Science	3	-Conceptual Physics <i>or</i> AP Physics 1 -Chemistry of Earth and Space Science -Biology
Mathematics	4 All students must enroll in a mathematics course each year of high school.	-Algebra I -Geometry -Other credits must be 1 credit in duration and may be selected from the Program of Studies Mathematics course offerings.
Physical Education	1	-Physical Education I (½ credit) -½ credit of any other Physical Education course to fulfill 1 credit graduation requirement.
Health	1	-Health I -Health II
Visual and Performing Arts	1	-Completed credit in any Visual and Performing Arts course may be applied to the state Fine Arts graduation requirements unless otherwise indicated.
Technology Education	1	-Foundations of Technology <i>or</i> Exploring Computer Science <i>or</i> Principles of Engineering (part of Project Lead the Way completer program), <i>or</i> AP Computer Science Principles.
Graduation Pathway: • World Language • <i>Or</i> American Sign Language • <i>Or</i> State Approved Career and Technical Education Completer Program	2 2 3 - 9	-2 credits of the same World Language -American Sign Language I, II, and III (for 2 credits total) -See Completer Programs in the Program of Studies.
Financial Literacy	½	-Financial Literacy <i>or</i> -Managing Personal Finances Using Excel (1 credit)
Electives	4 ½ - 12	
Total Credits Required	25	

*Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar *and* AP Research receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Students who *also* earn scores of 3 or higher on four additional AP exams at any time in high school receive the AP Capstone Diploma™.

Notes

- Credit will be awarded for high school courses completed successfully in middle school.
- Students who successfully complete high school level mathematics courses prior to high school can count the earned credits toward their requirement but still need to be enrolled in a mathematics course in each year of high school.

Student Service-Learning Requirement

The state mandated 75 hours of service-learning requirement may be met by completing the course-related option and/or the exemplary service option. Students must earn 55 service hours to earn senior status. Additional information can be found on the [CCPS Service-Learning page](#).

Additional Requirements

- Four years of approved study beyond grade 8.
- Four credits must be earned after the completion of grade 11.
- Students must meet the High School Assessment requirements for Algebra I, English 10, Biology, and Government. Testing requirements and passing scores vary based on the year of course completion. Details related to each content area are provided below.
- All students shall be assessed no later than grade 10 to determine if the student meets the Maryland State Department of Education criteria for College and Career Readiness in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
- Transition courses or other instructional opportunities will be provided to students who have not achieved College and Career Readiness by the end of grade 10. Additional information about College Career Readiness can be found at [College + Career Readiness – Blueprint \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#).

High School Assessment Requirements

NOTE: These assessment requirements may be subject to change pending any State (MSDE) revisions or requirements.

Algebra I

- Students taking Algebra I will be required to participate in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment (MCAP) for Algebra I and pass the Algebra I course to meet the graduation requirement.

English 10

- Students taking English 10 or English 10: AP Seminar will be required to participate in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment (MCAP) for English and pass the English 10 or English 10: AP Seminar course to meet the graduation requirement.

Biology

- Students in the 2026 graduating class taking Biology will be required to participate in the Life Science Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (LS MISA) to meet the graduation requirement.
- Students in the 2027 graduating class and beyond will be required to take the Life Science Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (LS MISA) for science as an end-of-course exam in Biology. The score will count for twenty percent of their final grade.

Government

- Students in the 2026 graduating class taking Government or AP US Government and Politics will be required to participate in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment (MCAP) for government to meet the graduation requirement.
- Students in the 2027 graduating class and beyond will be required to take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment (MCAP) for government as an end-of-year course exam in Government. The score will count for twenty percent of their final grade.

College and Career Readiness Standard

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future was passed by the Maryland General Assembly to transform Maryland's public education into a world class education system. One of the main objectives is to prepare students to be college and career ready upon graduation. Pillar three of the Blueprint, College and Career Readiness (CCR), sets a standard to prepare graduates for success in college and the workforce by ensuring students have the knowledge and skills necessary to compete. The Blueprint aims to have all students meet the CCR standard by the end of their 10th grade year.

A student may meet CCR in several ways, which allow them to access additional benefits outlined in the programs below.

Meeting CCR by the end of 10th Grade (Choose 1 option)

- GPA (unweighted) of 3.0+ AND earn an A, B or C in Algebra 1 or score proficient or above on Algebra 1 MCAP assessment.

Meeting CCR in the 11th or 12th Grade:

- 1-year GPA (unweighted) 3.0+ in 11th or 12th grade AND earn an A, B, or C in a high school math course at any point in the student's high school career.

Other Ways to Meet CCR (any grade in high school) (Choose 1 option)

- **2 Dual Enrollment (DE) courses:**
 - o Grade C or better
 - o 1 course in mathematics
 - o 1 course in English, Science or Social Studies
- **2 AP courses:**
 - o Score 3 or better
 - o 1 assessment in Math
 - o 1 assessment in English, Science or Social Studies
- Earn a 50+ score on **ASVAB**
- **SAT and PSAT:**
 - o **SAT/PSAT:** 480+ in Reading and Writing and 530+ in Math
 - o **ACT:** Score 18+ in English and 22+ in Math
- Score *AT TARGET* on Math and ELA **DLM Alternate Assessments**
- Earn Silver + on **ACT WorkKeys Assessment**
- Earn a State-Approved **Industry Recognized Credential (IRC)**
- Complete the high school level of a registered **apprenticeship**

*All College and Career Readiness Standards are subject to change based upon the Maryland State Department of Education.



South Carroll High School

1300 West Old Liberty Road
Sykesville, Maryland 21784
(410) 751-3575

CEEB Code: 211005

Graduation Date for Class of 2027: June 2027

School Counselor Information:

Student Last Name:

A – Fe	Mr. Ed Wharton	ewwhart@carrollk12.org
Fi – Le	Mr. Matt Schwarzenberg	mrschwar@carrollk12.org
Li – Re	Mrs. Jessica Quinn	jzquinn@carrollk12.org
Rh – Z	Mrs. Emily Marasco	eemaras@carrollk12.org
Registrar	Ms. Audrey Domino	acdomin@carrollk12.org
Clerical	Ms. Karrie Neary	ksneary@carrollk12.org

GPA Scale: 4.0 Weighted (your transcript provides a weighted and unweighted GPA)

Course Scheduling System: Semester (block schedule)

Class Rank: Exact

Individual Student Information:

Transcripts can be seen in Home Access, but these are not official. Official copies of transcripts must be requested in Naviance or through the School Counseling Center. You can also request an unofficial copy for your records from the School Counseling Center.

**As of today's date, (check HAC for updated information during the school year):*

Class Rank	
GPA	
Service Hours	

For more resources and information, visit our school website:
<https://sch.carrollk12.org/counseling/college-and-career-planning>

➤ Look for Grade Specific Resources

“The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t Settle.” – Steve Jobs

PLANNING

- Before you start:
 1. Develop effective communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills.
 2. Expand your writing, reading, and comprehension skills.
 3. Become capable of working in groups or independently.
 4. Acquire good personal references (at least 3).
- Do Career Exploration:
 1. Research job descriptions and requirements.
 2. Know yourself and consider yourself in relation to jobs of interest:
 - What is the work environment?
 - Can you see yourself doing the job description?
 - Do you have the necessary training or education?
 - Is the job a good fit for you?
 3. Consider a job shadow or informational interview to evaluate if a job or career is a good match for you.
 4. Consider your work-related experiences.
 - Part time jobs
 - Volunteer positions
 5. Explore the job market and prepare a list of obtainable jobs.
- For the military:
 1. Meet with recruiters
 2. Decide which branch most interests you.



FIRST STEPS

- Prepare a resume that sells.
- Complete a job application draft.
- Identify job sites and job openings.
 1. Read Want Ads online
 2. Attend job fairs and career workshops
 3. Check out job boards
 4. Network (talk to people you know)
 5. Look around you (“Help Wanted”)
- Prepare for interviewing:
 1. Be sure you have appropriate attire for interviewing.
 2. Check personal appearance (clothing, tattoos, piercings, hair style/color)
 3. Line up reliable transportation
- For the military: take the ASVAB (<https://www.asvabprogram.com>)



STEPPING OUT

- Start applying for jobs:
 1. Complete job applications forms.
 2. Obtain interviews by responding to ads, telephoning, and submitting a resume.
- Begin interviewing:
 1. Prepare for the interview: Consider questions you may be asked and prepare a few questions to ask interviewer.
 2. Remember that appearance counts.
 3. Take with you: job application (or draft), resume, and reference sheet.
 4. Arrive 10 minutes early and try to relax.
 5. Answer questions as completely as possible. Ask for clarification if question is unclear.
 6. Write a thank you note.



7. Keep good records of contacts and applications. Maintain an “Employer Contact” list.

CHANGING PATHS

- Don’t just quit. Find another job first.
- Assess the value of the new job. What will be different? Is that better?
- Give 2 weeks’ notice, minimum!
- Build a good work history. Consider additional training (in-services, workshops, one-time classes).



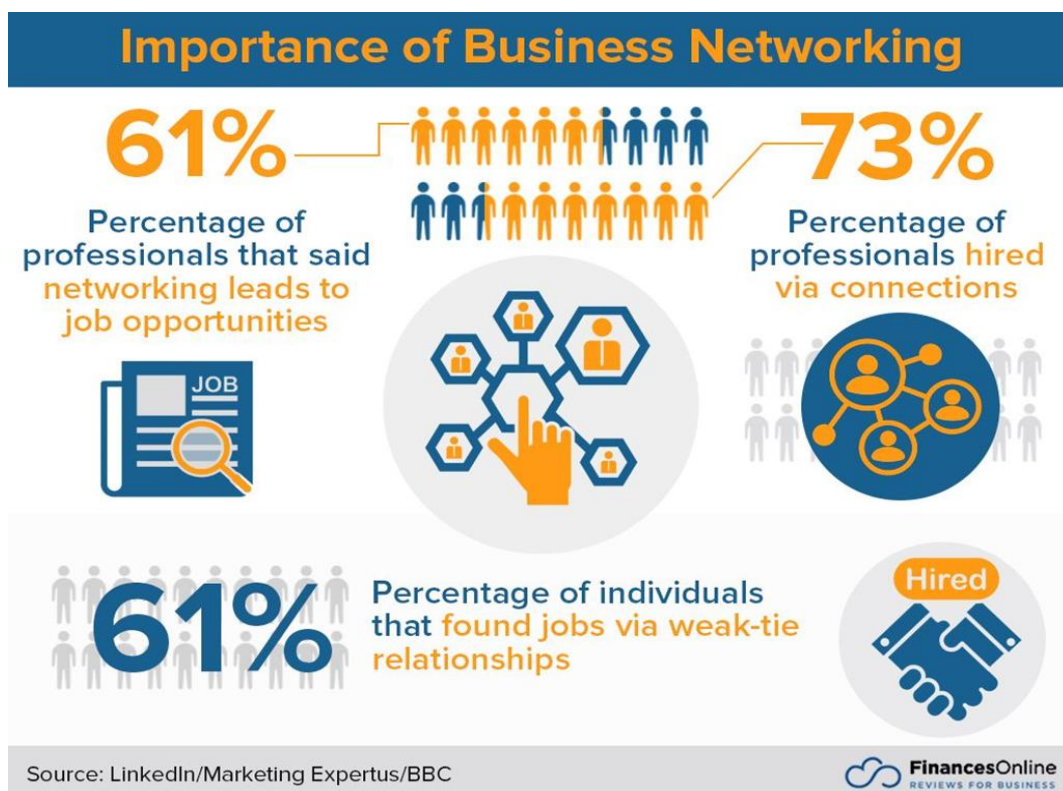
NOTES:

- Be prepared to take a drug test.
- Try to maintain a positive attitude. Finding a job can be a full-time job.
- For the military: Sign up but be sure it’s what you want.

WHY CAREER NETWORKING MATTERS

As the old saying goes, it's not what you know but who you know. That is why getting a new job, advancing your career, and succeeding professionally are not all dependent on what degree you obtained or which university you graduated from. As these business networking facts show, a big part of landing a job is establishing connections. And by connections, we don't just mean close friends or family.

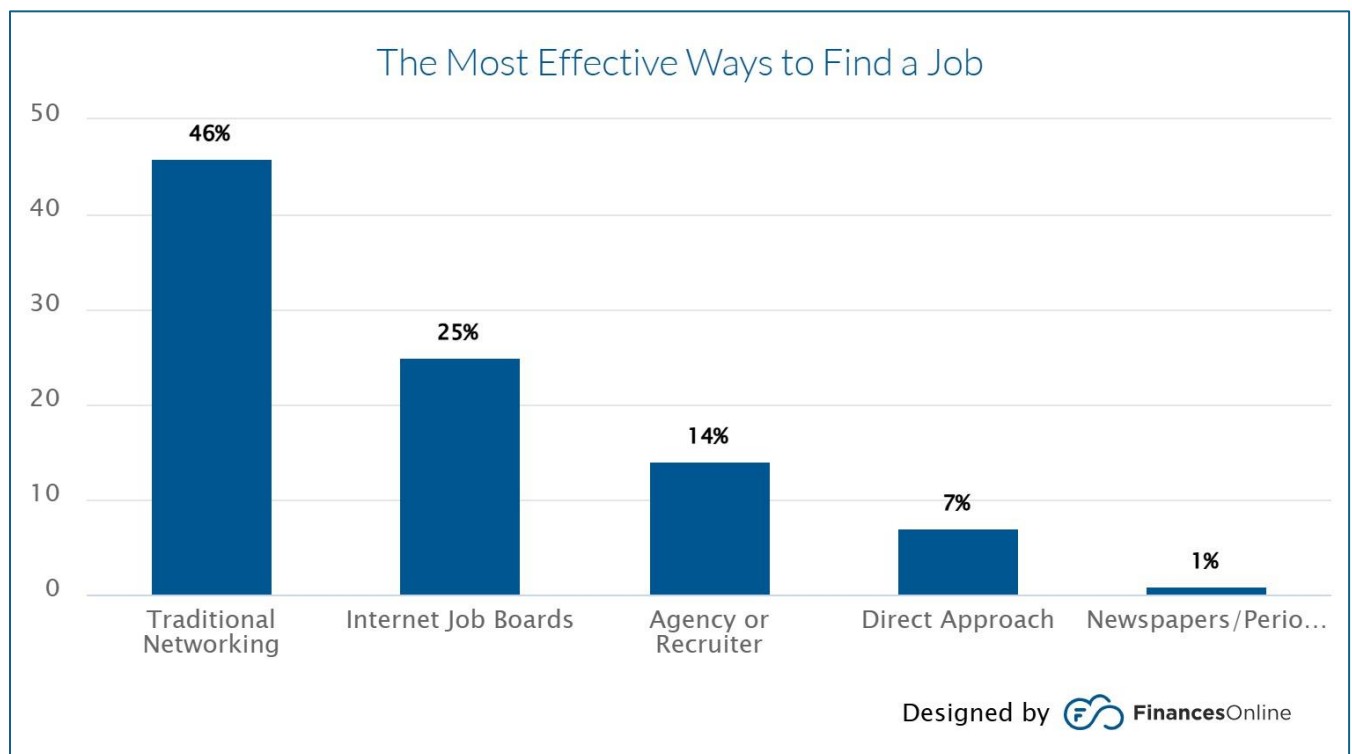
- Professionals who allotted 6.3 hours per week to networking activities said that it played a crucial role in their success (Marketing Expertus, 2020).
- 73% of survey participants reported that they had been hired in the past as a result of someone they know making an introduction or a connection (LinkedIn, 2020).
- 61% of professionals agree that regular online networking can actually lead to job opportunities (Marketing Expertus, 2020).
- 84% of respondents got their job through weak-tie relationships, acquaintances, or casual contacts whom they saw only occasionally (Leslie, 2020).
- Almost 61% of professionals worldwide agree that regular online interaction with their professional network can lead to possible job opportunities (LinkedIn, 2017).



THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO FIND A JOB

Moreover, when looking for work, you might want to go beyond job sites and invest time and effort in networking. These numbers provide some convincing evidence that you can significantly increase your chances of landing that dream job when you tap your connections.

- 70% of all jobs are not advertised on job sites (Fisher, 2019).
- 85% of job vacancies are filled via networking (Forbes, 2021).
- 82% of US adults said networking is vitally important for finding a new job (LinkedIn, 2020).
- Referrals make up 40% of new hires (Jobvite, n.d.)



Source: <https://financesonline.com/business-networking-statistics/>

WHERE THE JOBS ARE GOING TO BE...

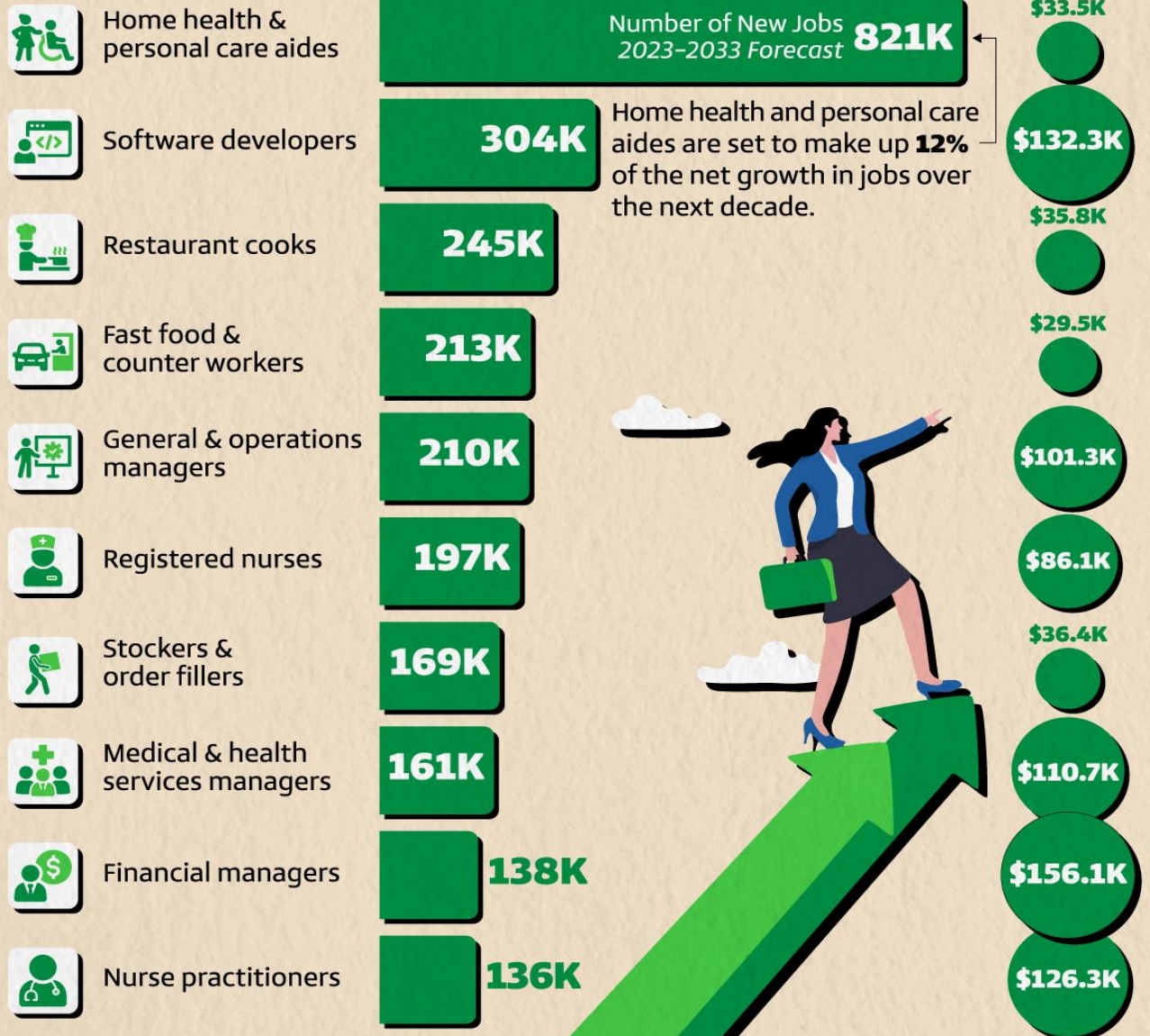
U.S. JOBS WITH THE 

Most Projected Growth

+6.7M

Net Total Change, All Occupations

2023 Median Annual Wage



 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

COLLABORATORS RESEARCH + WRITING Jenna Ross | ART DIRECTION + DESIGN Sabrina Lam

 **voronoi**
BY VISUAL CAPITALIST

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CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION:

Table 1. Fast-growing, well-paying occupations related to construction and installation that do not typically require a college degree



Occupation	Median annual wage, 2021	Employment, 2020	Employment growth, projected 2020–30 (percent)	Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average	Typical education needed for entry	Typical experience needed for entry	Typical on-the-job training needed for competency
Wind turbine service technicians	\$56,260	6,900	68	1,400	Postsecondary nondegree award	None	Long term
Solar photovoltaic installers	47,670	11,800	52	2,300	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate term
Security and fire alarm systems installers	48,320	73,400	16	9,200	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate term
Floor layers, except carpet, wood, and hard tiles	48,060	23,700	12	2,400	No formal educational credential	None	Moderate term
Tile and stone setters	47,810	54,100	12	5,400	No formal educational credential	None	Long term

Note: Wage data exclude self-employed workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR:

Table 2. Fast-growing, well-paying occupations related to maintenance and repair that do not typically require a college degree



Occupation	Median annual wage, 2021	Employment, 2020	Employment growth, projected 2020–30 (percent)	Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average	Typical education needed for entry	Typical experience needed for entry	Typical on-the-job training needed for competency
Industrial machinery mechanics	\$59,840	391,800	21	45,100	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long term
Commercial divers	60,360	4,000	17	500	Postsecondary nondegree award	None	Moderate term
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	65,380	130,100	12	12,700	Postsecondary nondegree award	None	None
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	58,030	152,100	12	17,500	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long term
Farm equipment mechanics and service technicians	46,910	47,600	11	5,400	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long term
Millwrights	60,330	44,200	10	4,400	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Apprenticeship

Note: Wage data exclude self-employed workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

TRANSPORTATION:

Table 3. Fast-growing, well-paying occupations related to transportation that do not typically require a college degree



Occupation	Median annual wage, 2021	Employment, 2020	Employment growth, projected 2020–30 (percent)	Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average	Typical education needed for entry	Typical experience needed for entry	Typical on-the-job training needed for competency
Airfield operations specialists	\$47,880	10,400	13	1,200	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long term
Pump operators, except wellhead pumpers	49,580	11,100	13	1,400	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate term
Aircraft cargo handling supervisors	53,540	11,000	12	1,400	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
Commercial pilots	99,640	39,200	11	4,900	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate term
Subway and streetcar operators	81,180	11,000	10	1,100	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate term

Note: Wage data exclude self-employed workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

U.S. MILITARY OPTIONS

TODAY'S MILITARY This site is intended to inform students, parents, and educators as they discuss the Military as a career option (www.Todaysmilitary.com)

ARMY

ACTIVE DUTY www.goarmy.com

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT www.usma.edu

ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS www.goarmy.com/rotc

NATIONAL GUARD
www.nationalguard.com

NAVY

ACTIVE DUTY www.navy.com

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
www.usna.edu

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS www.netc.navy.mil/NSTC/NROTC/

MARINE CORPS

ACTIVE DUTY www.marines.com

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
www.usna.edu

MARINE CORPS OFFICER CANDIDATE'S GUIDE www.marineofficer.com
MARINE CORPS RESERVE
www.marines.com

AIR FORCE

ACTIVE DUTY www.airforce.com

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY
www.academyadmissions.com

AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS <https://www.afrotc.com/>

COAST GUARD

ACTIVE DUTY AND COAST GUARD RESERVE www.GoCoastGuard.com

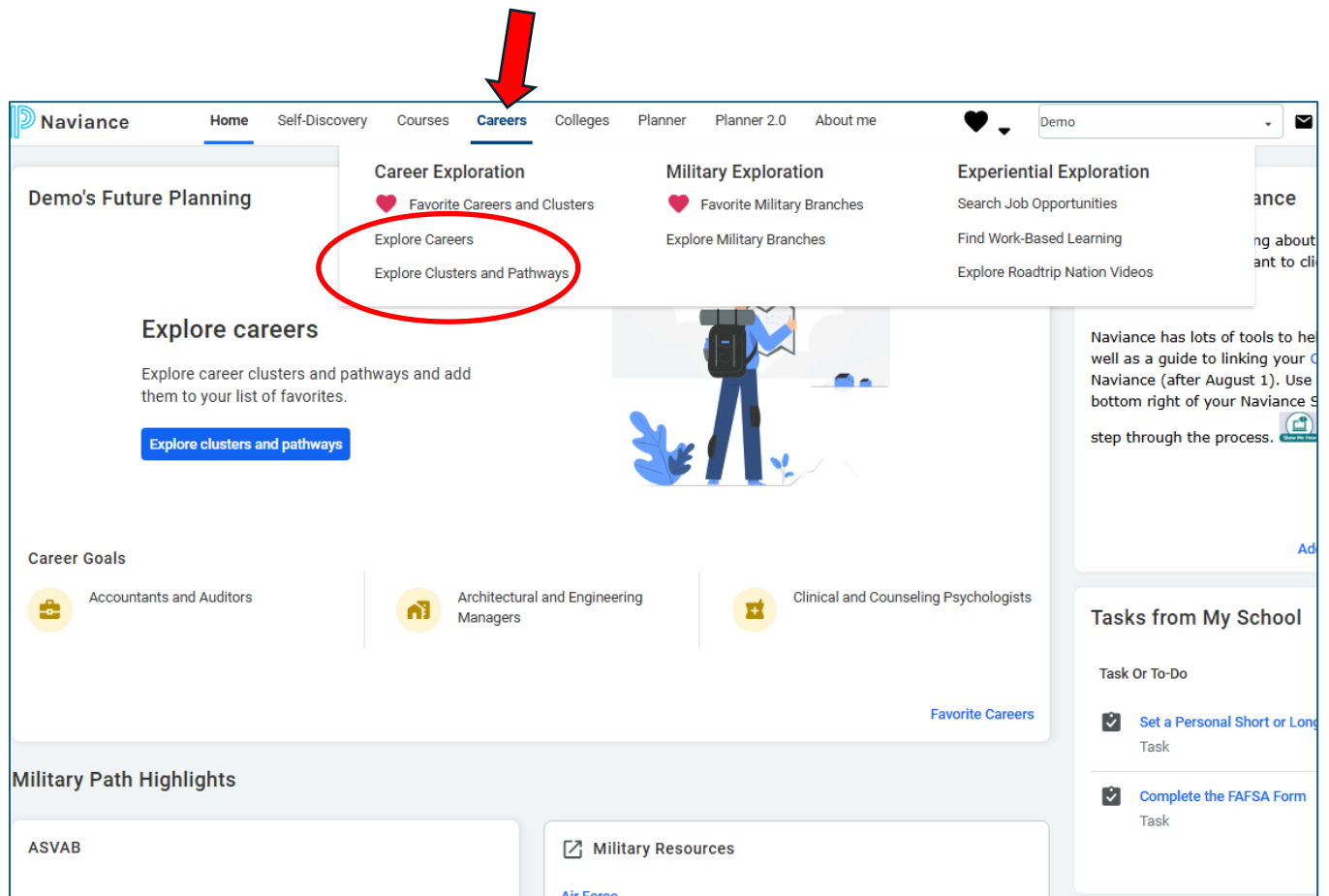
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY
<https://uscga.edu/>

SPACE FORCE

GENERAL INFORMATION
<https://www.spaceforce.mil/>

USING NAVIANCE FOR YOUR CAREER SEARCH

➤ Research different Careers...



The screenshot shows the Naviance website interface. A red arrow points to the 'Careers' tab in the top navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the 'Career Exploration' section is highlighted with a red circle, containing the links 'Favorite Careers and Clusters', 'Explore Careers', and 'Explore Clusters and Pathways'. The 'Explore careers' section below it includes a blue button labeled 'Explore clusters and pathways'. The 'Career Goals' section features three categories: Accountants and Auditors, Architectural and Engineering Managers, and Clinical and Counseling Psychologists. The 'Military Path Highlights' section includes links for ASVAB and Military Resources. The right sidebar contains a 'Tasks from My School' section with tasks like 'Set a Personal Short or Long Task' and 'Complete the FAFSA Form Task'.

➤ Go to “Self-Discovery”

- ✓ Career Interest Profiler – find careers that match your interests.
- ✓ The Personality Survey – find careers that match your personality type.
- ✓ Strengths Explorer, and more



Naviance Home **Self-Discovery** Courses Careers Colleges Planner Planner 2.0 About me

Demo's Future Planning

Explore career clusters

Explore career clusters and add them to your list

Self-Discovery Home

- Career Cluster Finder
- Career Interest Profiler
- Career Key
- Intelligences®
- Learning and Productivity®
- Personality®
- Skills®
- StrengthsExplorer®

Career Goals

- Accountants and Auditors
- Architectural and Engineering Managers
- Clinical and Counseling Psychologists

Military Path Highlights

- ASVAB
- Military Resources

Career Exploration Websites

Resource	On-Line Address	Description
American Gap Association	www.americangap.org	Find a Gap program that's right for you. Information and research.
ASVAB Career Exploration	www.asvabprogram.com	Career Information. ASVAB Test info.
CareerOneStop	www.careeronestop.org	Career searches. Career Planning. Salary info. Education and Training. Job search. Resume help.
Cool Works	www.coolworks.com	Connecting people looking for exciting and meaningful work with employers in amazing places.
Maryland Workforce Exchange	https://mwejobs.maryland.gov	Find jobs, training, and post resumes in the state of MD
MD Higher Education Commission	www.mhec.state.md.us	Career Center. Career Schools. MD college/university search. Scholarship search. College planning. Financial Aid.
Monster	www.monster.com	Job search. Career guides. Salary info. Resume help.
My Future	www.myfuture.com	College, Career, & Military Planning
My Next Move	www.mynextmove.org	Take an interest inventory to find your career. Explore jobs by industries.
Occupational Outlook Handbook	www.bls.gov/ooh	From the Dept. of Labor. Job descriptions, outlooks, education, earnings, etc.
Universities, Colleges & Trade Schools	www.trade-schools.net	Search for Technical Schools, Trade Schools, Colleges, and Distance Learning
U.S. Department of Labor	https://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-finder	Find an apprenticeship program anywhere in the United States.