Career Cluster Explorations

Career Cluster Explorations is a 70-hour course designed for students in Grade 7 to improve communication skills, learn about the value of work, develop leadership skills, explore career opportunities, and become aware of basic employability skills.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

**Technology**

Students will:

1. Demonstrate basic technology skills.
   Examples: managing files, using the Internet, using application programs

**Work Ethics**

2. Explain personal and societal benefits of work.

**Communication Skills**

3. Demonstrate oral presentation skills that sustain listener attention and interest, including eye contact, clear enunciation, and use of visual aids.
   - Preparing support materials to accompany a presentation, including tables and charts

4. Apply active listening skills to obtain and clarify information.

5. Summarize written materials from various career sources clearly, succinctly, and accurately.

**Employability Skills**

6. Create a personal plan of study to meet career goals and objectives.

7. Demonstrate positive work behaviors and personal qualities, including displaying a willingness to acquire new knowledge and skills, demonstrating integrity in a work situation, and indicating a willingness to follow rules and procedures.

8. Describe employment skills needed for obtaining and maintaining a job.
Leadership

9. Demonstrate interpersonal skills, including teamwork, conflict management, problem solving, and networking.

10. Demonstrate leadership skills for creating an environment that fosters mutual trust and confidence.

Career Opportunities

11. Demonstrate the ability to locate resources to determine job and career opportunities related to the Alabama Career and Technical Education clusters.
   - Describing the nature of each of the Alabama Career and Technical Education clusters

12. Identify employment opportunities to match personal interests and aptitudes.