CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 7-29 ▲ CAREER AND TECHNICAL OPTIONS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Explore the diversity and scope of Career/Technical educational options in high school.
* Explore the diversity and scope of Career/Technical educational options beyond high school.
* Understand key career and technical education terms/vocabulary.
* List/discuss multiple CTE options available at their school and/or regional center.
* Learn about CTE course equivalencies. (New starting in 2016)

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* CTE Options (Answer Key included with this lesson)
* **Computer or table with access to internet/projection capabilities** to display the suggested websites
* **High School Course Catalog**
* **Additional school district or regional tech center catalogs/information**
* **Student Activity Handbook/Description of student leadership organizations**
* **College program brochures**
* **CTE Course Equivalencies List** [**http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/Clusters/CourseEquivalencies/CTEStatewideCourseEquivalencies.pdf**](http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/Clusters/CourseEquivalencies/CTEStatewideCourseEquivalencies.pdf)

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Explain to students that this workshop requires that students work in a group to help each other answer a set of questions about career and technical resource options.** (Note that there is a teacher’s answer sheet following the student worksheet.) Students will be answering these questions:

* What courses does the high school offer in career and technical areas?
* What does the word “tech prep” mean? What high school courses offer career or technical credit or dual credit?
* Does our region have a technical center that offers additional courses for students in specific areas of training?
* What student leadership groups does our high school sponsor that focus on career and technical skill development?
* What is an apprenticeship? Where are apprenticeships available in your area?
* What is an internship? Where are internships available in your area?
* What programs career and technical programs do local technical or community colleges offer?
* Are there other kinds of colleges nearby that offer career and technical coursework?
* Do four-year colleges offer technical programs?
* What are course equivalencies for high school graduation?

Further explain to students that this is a two-level group activity. They will have a research group looking at just one question and a sharing group where they will teach other students.

1. **Assign students to groups of four and distribute the *CTE Options* Handout.** Have the students each choose one of the first four questions they want to answer. Remind them they will be depending on the students in the group to teach other the answers to all of the questions.

You will have four stations with these materials:

* Course offerings and equivalencies High School course catalogs
* Tech Prep High School course catalogs/computer access
* Regional centers Regional brochure/computer access
* Student Leadership Groups Students activity handbook

Give students time to look at the materials and answer the questions with the idea that they will teach this to their “home group.”

1. **Assign each of the four groups a new question.** (If you have the time, you can use different groups but it is a lot of moving around.) Follow the same research procedure with the final question on four-year technical programs being a bonus for all groups.

* Apprenticeship Computer access
* Internship Computer Access
* Career and technical colleges Computer Access/college brochures
* For Profit technical programs Computer Access/college Brochures
* Four-year technical programs in WA Computer Access/College Brochures

1. **Have the research experts return to their teaching group and share the answer to their questions.** Expect that an answer sheet from each group is recorded and that students record their own individual worksheets for the next lesson.
2. **Discuss with the students what they learned.** Ask them what was most interesting or most surprising. Relate this discussion to the next workshop where students will be charting their individual career/technical path.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *CTE Options***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **FACILITATOR NOTES**

The purpose of the workshop is to take students beyond the usual “course planning” for high school. Hopefully, the workshop is a deeper examination of local options open to the student. The workshop uses the cooperative learning technique of home/research groups that will require the teacher prepare research stations.  
  
The specific vocabulary and content included is:

* Career and technical courses
* Tech Prep
* Student Leadership Organizations
* Apprenticeship
* Internships
* Technical Colleges and Community Colleges
* Four-year technical programs
* Course equivalencies
* **Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction** <http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/WhyCTE.aspx#2>

More information on Career and Technical Education

<http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/StudentLeadership.aspx>

Information on Student Leadership Organizations

* **Skill Centers**

[www.washingtonskillscenters.org](http://www.washingtonskillscenters.org)

* **Washington State Community and Technical Colleges**

[www.checkoutacollege.com](http://www.checkoutacollege.com)

* **Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board** <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/currentlicensedschools.asp>

List of currently licensed private career schools

* **State Board of Community and Technical Colleges**

<http://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/tech-prep/>

Information regarding workforce Tech Prep, a national initiative that provides students with essential academic and technical foundations.

* **Washington State Department of Labor and Industries** <http://www.lni.wa.gov/tradeslicensing/apprenticeship/programs/>

Information on Apprenticeship programs in Washington State.

* **Washington Building Trades**

<http://www.wabuildingtrades.org/community/apprenticeship-programs/><http://www.wabuildingtrades.org/community/pre-apprenticeship-programs/>

Information on Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

* **Apprenticeship Washington**

[www.exploreapprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.exploreapprenticeship.wa.gov)

* **LookSharp**

<https://www.looksharp.com/c/washington>

Current listing of Internships in Washington State

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 7-29 STUDENT HANDOUT

CTE OPTIONS

**FIRST ROUND RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***QUESTION*** | ***ANSWER*** |
| 1. ***What courses does the high school offer in career and technical areas?*** |  |
| 1. ***What does the word “tech prep” mean? What high school courses offer career or technical credit or dual credit?*** |  |
| 1. ***Does our region have a technical center that offers additional courses for students in specific areas of training?*** |  |
| 1. ***What student leadership groups does our high school sponsor that focus on career and technical skill development?*** |  |

**SECOND ROUND RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***QUESTION*** | ***ANSWER*** |
| 1. ***What is an apprenticeship? Where are apprenticeships available in your area?*** |  |
| 1. ***What is an internship? Where are internships available in your area?*** |  |
| 1. ***What programs career and technical programs does local technical or community colleges offer?*** |  |
| 1. ***Are there other kinds of colleges nearby that offer career and technical coursework?*** |  |

**BONUS QUESTIONS:**

Do four-year colleges offer technical programs?

What course equivalencies does my school offer for CTE courses?

How will course equivalencies look on my high school transcript?

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 7-29 TEACHER HANDOUT

CTE OPTIONS ANSWER KEY

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| --- | --- |
| ***Question*** | ***Answer*** |
| ***What courses does the high school offer in career and technical areas?*** | CTE classes are offered in many different fields, from construction, welding, firefighting, police work and cooking to environmental science, anatomy and physiology, nursing, veterinary science, computer software, graphic arts, mechanical engineering, architectural drafting, and business and marketing. These classes integrate academics with technical skill development to help prepare students for higher-level courses in college or prepare you for a paid internship. Some middle schools offer limited CTE classes and most high schools offer a wide range of CTE classes. |
| ***What does the word “tech prep” mean? What high school courses offer career or technical credit or dual credit?*** | Tech Prep classes are open to students in grades 9 through 12 and offer tuition-free college credit as well as high school credit. All Tech Prep classes are CTE classes and all have established relationships with local community and technical colleges, meaning students taking a level one or two CTE Tech Prep class in high school can enter the level three or four class in the same discipline at the local two-year college after they graduate from high school. Some Tech Prep students finish their entire first year of college while still in high school, and save a lot of tuition money in the process. Tech Prep is an industry and education partnership committed to providing a highly-trained and motivated workforce, prepared to pursue lifelong learning in a changing technological society.  Tech Prep provides occupational pathways for students by preparing them for technologically advanced careers and postsecondary education by emphasizing strong academic, technical, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. Tech Prep prepares students for the world of work and helps maintain a quality life in a changing society.  Tech Prep is a national educational initiative. It includes a rigorous and focused course of study that provides students with essential academic and technical foundations that prepare students with necessary workplace skills.  <http://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/tech-prep/> |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Does our region have a technical/skill center that offers additional courses for students in specific areas of training?*** | Whether your passion is for cooking, learning to build robots or helping people get healthy, Skills Centers offer you a place to explore those interests in-depth. With Skills Centers, you get hands-on, specialized training in areas that range from culinary arts to robotics technology to nursing. Often, you’re able to earn industry certification and college credits while you’re still in high school. Plus you add value to your resume, for when you are looking for a job. There are 13 Skills Centers in Washington, serving more than 100 school districts. Many students go to a Skills Center as part of their school day, immersing themselves in career-focused classes, while attending high school the rest of the time. See which Skills Center serves your school district at: [www.washingtonskillscenters.org](http://www.washingtonskillscenters.org) |
| ***What student leadership groups does our high school sponsor that focus on career and technical skill development?*** | Career and Technical Education student organizations help you grow and learn how to compete. These organizations are specifically designed to increase the confidence and leadership potential of members. Depending on your school’s Career and Technical Education courses, you might have some or all of Washington’s student leadership organizations available to you.  <http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/StudentLeadership.aspx> |
| ***What is an apprenticeship? Where are apprenticeships available in your area? How do you become an apprentice?*** | <http://www.lni.wa.gov/tradeslicensing/apprenticeship/programs/>  Apprenticeship programs are a combination of on the job education and training with classroom instruction that provide individuals with an effective way of entering a career in the skilled workforce. Apprentices earn a living wage throughout the education process, with periodic raises to reflect increased experience and commitment. Once the apprenticeship is completed, workers receive full journey level wages and possess a trade certification that is recognized internationally. |
| ***What is an internship? Where are internships available in your area?*** | Internships provide real world experience to those looking to explore or gain the relevant knowledge and skills required to enter into a particular career field. Internships are relatively short term in nature with the primary focus on getting some on the job training and taking what’s learned in the classroom and applying it to the real world. Interns generally have a supervisor who assigns specific tasks and evaluates the interns overall work. For internships for credit, usually a faculty sponsor will work along with the site supervisor to ensure that the necessary learning is taking place. Interns can be high school or college students or even adults interested in trying out a new career. Many college students do internships to gain relevant experience in a particular career field as well as to get exposure to determine if they have a genuine interest in the field. Internships are an excellent way to begin building those all important connections that are invaluable in developing and maintaining a strong professional network for the future.  <https://www.looksharp.com/c/washington> |
| ***Is there such a thing as “work-based” experience or learning that counts for career and technical education credits?***  ***Note- this is an additional question that could be used for extra credit for a group that is faster than others.*** | CTE students in many cases can pursue what is called a “work-based learning” opportunity or an internship involving a job outside of school. “Work-based learning” experiences are always paid and also earn high school credit. Internships are typically paid but do not earn academic credit. Individual schools and CTE teachers work with local employers to arrange these opportunities for their students, so your local CTE or career office is the best source of information for what your own school offers. |
| ***What programs career and technical programs does local technical or community colleges offer?*** | The state has 34 public community and technical colleges. They offer academic associate’s degrees that transfer to a college or university, and certificates and degrees in career-specific areas such as health care, accounting, automotive technology and culinary arts.  [www.checkoutacollege.com](http://www.checkoutacollege.com) |
| ***Are there other kinds of colleges nearby that offer career and technical coursework?*** | The Workforce Board licenses and regulates more than 300 private career schools doing business in the state of Washington. The agency also investigates student complaints and administers a fund that reimburses students affected by a school closure.  <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/currentlicensedschools.asp> |
| ***Do four-year colleges offer technical programs?*** | See list on State Board for Community and Technical Colleges website. |