

Career Exploration

Course Description

Career Exploration is the foundation experience within the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Delivery System supporting the successful transition to high school Career and Technical Education Career Preparation programs. The Arizona Department of Education, approved curriculum framework is aligned with the Arizona Workplace Standards, Arizona Technology Standards, and the National Career Development Guidelines. It introduces students to the *States' Career Clusters* as well as providing opportunities for instruction supported by a flexible learning environment, appropriate technology and support systems. The standards address career exploration and core skill development common to **virtually all occupations**.

Guidelines

- ❖ Career Exploration is offered and/or delivered during grades 7-9 in a single course or integrated into several other courses before a student enters Career Preparation.
- ❖ This course may be taught by a CTE certified teacher or by a *team to include at least one CTE certified teacher
- ❖ Carnegie Units earned within a Career Exploration course will not be recognized towards Concentrator status
- ❖ At least a one-semester course for Career Exploration is recommended
- ❖ ADE will provide and continue to update an instructional resource list
- ❖ CTE staff will, when appropriate, provide technical assistance for implementation and curriculum development
- ❖ Local districts and individual schools may provide support through professional development Career Exploration
- ❖ Funding (state or federal) is not generated through a Career Exploration course
- ❖ Unified School Districts may use Carl D. Perkins funds on Career Exploration courses (grades 7-9). See Sec. 315 Perkins IV

Please note:

- Federal funds **can** be used for instructional materials, including software for grades 7-9
- Federal funds **can** be used for professional development activities for grades 7-9
- Federal funds **can** be used to buy equipment for grade 9
- Federal funds **cannot** be used to buy equipment for grades 7-8
- Federal funds **cannot** be used for staff salaries for grades 7-8
- ❖ Unified School Districts may use State block Grant funds for Career Exploration courses (grades 7-9).
- ❖ A union district and feeder elementary districts may enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to provide Perkins funding to support career exploration activities for 7th and 8th grade
- ❖ Implementation of the Career Exploration curriculum framework should be in place by the school year 2007-2008

Curriculum Framework

The complete curriculum framework is available at:

http://www.aztechprep.org/CTE_Programs/Career_Explore/career_explore.html

*A team is more than one teacher. All the team members are involved in instruction and coordinate the delivery of the standards. It is allowable for team members to coordinate between schools for the delivery of Career Exploration instruction.