

Preparing for Your Future

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW Mentors will explore the education, knowledge, and skills required to pursue a career in their identified Career Cluster and identify opportunities and resources available to them.

TIME FRAME 30 minutes to one hour.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES Provide this activity to Lead Mentors several days before your Club meeting. Review the activity with them and make sure they are prepared.

LEAD MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES Prepare for the activity before your Club meets. Review the guidance found in Appendix A. Facilitate completion of the activity.

MATERIALS NEEDED Copies of the [Preparing for Your Future Part 1](#) and the [Preparing for Your Future Part 2](#) handouts.

DIRECTIONS FOR LEAD MENTORS

1. Read the following to the Mentors:

Now that we have identified Career Clusters that match our strengths and interests, let's take some time to learn more about what we can do to prepare for our careers of interest.

2. Distribute copies of the [Preparing for Your Future Part 1](#) handout and ask Mentors to complete it individually.
3. After the Mentors have completed the handout, have them share some of their answers.
4. Ask the Mentors to divide into groups of three or four with those who have similar career interests. Mentors may have to divide into groups with those who have the same Career Cluster.
5. Distribute copies of the [Preparing for Your Future Part 2](#) handout and ask Mentors to complete it as a group.
6. Facilitate a discussion using the questions at the end of this activity as a guide.

Preparing for Your Future Part 1 Handout

After completing the Naviance Career Survey, use the following sources to find additional information about your top three Career Clusters. Answer the below questions to learn more about the Career Cluster that match your interests.

DCPS Career Guide

<https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/what-are-the-career-clusters>

<https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/article/career-clusters.htm>

<https://jobseeker.k-12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/ExploreIt/CareerClusters.aspx>

<https://www.cacareerzone.org/clusters>

1. What is your current career interest?

2. Review the results of your survey. What career cluster do you think best matches your interests, talents, and abilities?

3. List three careers in this career cluster you can pursue, that you feel best match your interests, talents, and abilities.

4. What skills and abilities are necessary to work in this career cluster?

5. What majors, degrees, and/or professional licenses are needed to work in this career cluster?

6. What courses should someone take in high school to prepare to work in this career cluster?

7. What extracurricular could help develop skills needed for this career cluster?

Preparing for Your Future Part 2 Handout

Complete the table below by visiting the websites of your feeder high school, application high school, and local community or technical college. You may also contact a career counselor at these schools to find out more about available programs and opportunities.

Questions	In-boundary or Feeder High School	Application High School	Community College or another program	Other
What resources and opportunities are available to help you prepare for your careers of interest?				
What courses are offered that will help you prepare for your careers of interest?				
What extracurricular activities are available that will help you develop the skills needed to be successful in your careers of interest?				
What businesses and agencies offer opportunities for internships or job shadowing programs for your career of interest?				

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FOR DISCUSSION

Lead Mentors, facilitate a discussion using the following questions as a guide.

1. What can you do now to prepare for high school and for your future study in your career clusters?
2. What opportunities are offered in your feeder high school to help you prepare you for your career clusters?
3. Are there any opportunities that excite you?
4. What skills can those opportunities help you develop?
5. What other questions do you have about your career of interest and career clusters? What resources can you use to help answer these questions?