

National Career Pathway Organizations

There are a number of organizations that provide extensive support for developing career pathways programs of study. The following descriptions were obtained by the organizations' websites.

Automotive Youth Educational Systems

A nationwide high school initiative that develops "school-to-career" automotive educational pathways. Programs include industry certifications.

<https://www.ayes.org/home.aspx>

Genesys Works

Enables inner city, senior high school students to engage in meaningful work experience after eight intensive weeks of training. Students are then assigned to work at a client's location, part time, during their senior year.

<http://www.genesysworks.org/>

Home Builders Institute

Through certification programs, mentoring, pre-apprenticeships, and job placement services, Home Builders Institute pathways prepare students – including at-risk and underserved populations such as youth, veterans, ex-offenders and displaced workers – with the skills and experience they need for successful careers in the building industry.

<http://www.hbi.org/>

Jobs for the Future Early College Designs

This program combines high school and college courses in a rigorous, supportive environment that enables struggling students to graduate with college credit and skills for postsecondary success.

<http://www.jff.org/initiatives/early-college-designs/design-features>

Leaders Up

A program that works to bridge the divide between the untapped potential of young people and the business challenge of finding and keeping good employees through customized employer recruitment, workforce training and career pathway education.

<http://www.leadersup.org/>

MBA High School of Business

A four-year, high school business administration career pathway based on a college program model with students taking one course per semester.

<http://www.mbaresearch.org/index.php/program-development/program-designs/hsb/about-hsb>

Microsoft IT Academy

An IT high school curriculum that includes several pathway choices, career planning, and opportunities for students to earn Microsoft certifications.

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/education/it-academy/default.aspx>

National Academy Foundation Academies

High school academies organized around one of five career themes – Finance, Hospitality & Tourism, Information Technology, Health Sciences, or Engineering – and includes core academic courses, industry-specific classes, and work-based learning activities.

<http://naf.org/naf-academies>

National Council for Agricultural Education

Establishes agricultural education programs focused on both academic and career success through contextual and work-based learning and participation in student leadership organizations.

<https://www.ffa.org/thecouncil/>

NCCER

Develops and provides secondary and postsecondary schools with standardized construction and maintenance curriculum and assessments with portable, national credentials.

<http://www.nccer.org/>

Oracle University

Offers IT learning pathways tailored to job roles that provide the knowledge and skills needed for on-the-job expertise. Each pathway includes an Oracle certification exam.

http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=3

Project Lead the Way

Offers comprehensive science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education pathway programs through problem- and project-based K-12 curriculum.

<https://www.pltw.org/>

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is one of the nation's leading providers of K-12 STEM programs. The program is offered in over 6,500 schools throughout the country and can be found in all 50 states. PLTW's activity-, project-, and problem-based curriculum and high-quality teacher professional development, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills they need to be successful in post-secondary education and beyond.

PLTW offers five programs. All programs are fully developed and designed to be implemented in a designated sequence:

- **PLTW Launch** is offered for kindergarten through fifth grade students. Students learn to use structured approaches, like the engineering design process and to apply STEM knowledge. In doing this, they develop skills and habits of mind; they discover that trying different approaches and solutions is an essential part of the learning process. The curriculum includes 12 modules aligned to grade-level standards with an additional 12 modules available for the 2015-16 school year.
- **PLTW Gateway** provides engineering and biomedical science curriculum for middle school students. The curriculum is designed to be flexible and allow teachers to incorporate it into the existing school structure.
- **PLTW Engineering** teaches high school students how to engage in open-ended problem solving, learn, and apply the engineering design process and use the same industry-leading technology and software as are used in the world's top companies. Schools offer a minimum of three courses by the end of the third year of implementation: Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, and any specialization course or the capstone course.
- **PLTW Biomedical Science** teaches students to investigate the roles of biomedical professionals as they study the concepts of human medicine, physiology, genetics, microbiology, and public health. Each course in the Biomedical Science sequence builds on the skills and knowledge students gain in the preceding courses. Schools offer the three PLTW Biomedical Science foundation courses within a period of three academic years from the start of implementation and may also offer the capstone course.
- **PLTW Computer Science** engages high school students in computational thinking and prepares a computationally aware and capable workforce. This program comprises introductory, foundation, and specialty courses.

SkillsUSA

Through middle school, high school, and postsecondary career technical education programs, SkillsUSA's career pathways serve students for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations, and for further education.

<http://www.skillsusa.org/>

STEM 101

Offers a K-16 curriculum with multiple STEM-related pathways for industry and post-secondary advancement with a focus on improving under-represented minority and low-income student growth, closing achievement gaps, and decreasing dropout rates.

<http://www.stem101.org/index.asp>

Urban Alliance

A year-long employment program for under-resourced high school seniors in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Chicago, that gives youths access to professional growth and experiences through paid internships, formal training, and mentorship.

<http://www.theurbanalliance.org/>

YearUp

Combines hands-on skill development, college credits, and corporate internships to prepare young adults for success in professional careers and higher education. It's free of charge and provides a stipend to participants.

<http://www.yearup.org/>

YouthBuild

Provides pathways for low-income youth to earn a high school diploma/GED, learn skills, and earn certifications needed to succeed in high-demand careers or to successfully transition to postsecondary education.

<https://www.youthbuild.org/>