

Career Clusters' Structure

The 16 Career Clusters are divided and organized into pathways with career specialties or occupations that fall within the pathways. An illustration below shows the structure in the Architecture and Construction Cluster.

Foundational knowledge and skills have been identified for each cluster. Performance and measurement criteria have been developed for each of the knowledge and skills statements. The knowledge and skill statements have been organized into 10 topic areas:

Academic Foundations:	Achieve state academic standards including language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
Communications	Use oral and written communication skills in expressing and interpreting information and ideas including the technical terminology and information
Problem Solving and Critical Thinking	Define and solve problems, and use problem-solving and improvement methods and tools.
Information Technology Applications	Use information technology (computers, networks, and communications technology) to access, organize, process, transmit, and communicate information.
Systems	Apply business planning and management within the market environment. Internalize the mission, goals, the organizational systems and functions, and customer and stakeholder requirements for these functions. Know how the performance of these functions and systems as a whole is measured and improved.
Safety, Health, and Environment	Use safety, health, and environmental management systems in companies and internalize their importance to organizational performance and regulatory compliance. Follow company policies and procedures and contribute to continuous improvement in performance and compliance.
Leadership and Teamwork	Apply leadership and teamwork skills in collaborating with others to accomplish business goals and objectives.
Ethics and Legal Responsibility	Commit to work ethics, behavior, and legal responsibilities in the workplace.
Career Development	Plan and manage careers and employment relations.

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Technical Skills	Achieve the technical skills necessary to pursue the full range of careers for all Pathways in the Career Cluster.
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Each knowledge and skill statement has performance elements and measurement criteria.

Knowledge and Skill Statements - broad statements specifying the knowledge and/or skills required

Performance Elements - what the learner must know to demonstrate competency in the cluster or pathway. specific measurable statements that indicate what the learner must know and be able to do to meet the intent of the knowledge and skill statement.

Measurement Criteria - items that clarify what is to be measured and the level of performance expected.

An example of a knowledge and skill statement, performance element, and measurement criteria for the Architecture and Construction cluster is as follows:

Knowledge and Skill Statement - Perform math operations to complete jobsite/workplace tasks such as

Performance Elements - estimating and distributing materials and supplies. Use geometric formulas to determine areas and volumes of various structures.

Measurement Criteria - Calculate areas and volumes of structures.

Measurement Criteria - Estimate materials and supplies needed.

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