

Career Clusters

Occupations and industries can be divided into the following 16 broad categories, or career clusters:

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio/Visual Technology and Communications
- Business, Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Sales and Service
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

Organizing occupations into career clusters helps schools develop academic programs that prepare students well for future study and employment. These categories give you the chance to explore a range of related jobs and perhaps discover career options you hadn't considered before. Also, knowing what preparation is required for a particular cluster makes choosing high school and college classes easier.

There are many other ways to organize jobs. The U.S. Department of Labor groups occupations into 11 categories, including Management; Production; Construction; and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair. The Connecticut Business and Industry Association divides careers into eight industry groups, some of which are Arts and Media; Environmental, Natural Resources, and Agriculture; and Business and Finance. One career resource Web site lists 21 "job families." Regardless of the number of categories, jobs within a cluster share similar hiring, professional development, safety, legal, and/or ethical issues.