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# Unit 7:

# Nebraska College and Career Readiness



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# NEBRASKA CAREER CLUSTERS FOR AFTERSCHOOL



# CAREER DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

This toolkit provides a deep dive into College and Career Readiness for afterschool and summer programs. In this unit, Beyond School Bells focuses on **College and Career Readiness** in Nebraska and provides information based on Nebraska Department of Education resources, including [Nebraska's 16 Career Clusters](#) and the [Career Development model](#).

## NEBRASKA CAREER DEVELOPMENT MODEL



“Our goal is to inspire individuals to turn their passion, talent and abilities into successful careers and fulfilling lives. We believe all individuals should be empowered to choose a meaningful career and education pathway to position themselves for lifelong success. Choosing a career should never be left to chance or luck. Ideally, it is an informed decision-making process.”

— NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Nebraska's afterschool and summer programs can help students connect their interests to careers. The activities and experiences your programs deliver can help students discover

- What they like to do
- What motivates them
- How to make choices and decisions

# SELF-AWARENESS

**Self-Awareness** is an important part of Nebraska's Career Development model and is a key focus of this unit. **Career Exploration** is covered in this unit through the lens of Nebraska's Career Cluster model. **Career Planning and Management** was covered in detail in earlier parts of this toolkit.

→ As a program director/leader, you are in a unique position to promote self-awareness in students by creating activities and experiences that can help students identify their interests and skills and learn to set goals for themselves.

Your afterschool and summer staff can use formal conversations and natural mentoring to help students realize their thoughts and feelings about activities can tell them a lot about their interests and skills.

## NEBRASKA CAREER DEVELOPMENT MODEL



You can include self-awareness efforts in your afterschool and summer programs by helping students think about 3 questions before, during, and after activities and experiences

- What do I like to do?
- What am I good at?
- What do I want to do?

# SELF-AWARENESS

As you prepare for your afterschool and summer programs in Nebraska, think about how you can naturally include questions and ideas like these examples into your activities to help students understand self-awareness.

## INTERESTS

What do I like to do?

- Have students choose activities they want to participate in.
- Encourage students to try new activities and experiences.
- Ask students what they enjoyed most and least during activities.
- Use student and family surveys to collect information on student interests.

## SKILLS

What am I good at?

- Help students understand different skills they already have. For example, Did you know cooking is a skill? And so is getting the ingredients ready, it helps us stay organized.
- Ask student how they felt about an activity. For example, What made the activity fun? Is that something you like to do?
- Talk with students about things you see them doing well. For example, I noticed how great your drawing was, do you like to draw?
- Ask students to show you something they are good at. For example: Let's do a 2-minute talent show, who has something they want to show us?

## GOALS

What do I want to do?

- Have students set goals for themselves, for example try a new activity or improve on a skill.
- Help students identify a challenge for themselves. Help students identify ways to take on leadership in their program/club or encourage them to build upon a previous project they did.
- Celebrate students when they accomplish something they have been working on.
- Talk about the goal/purpose of activities and clubs. For example, we have a gardening club so we can see how food is grown. Then we can make tasty treats from the veggies in our garden.

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## CAREER EXPLORATION

The **Nebraska Career Clusters for Afterschool model** is color coded to show 16 Career Clusters related to similar careers. Each Career Cluster shows **3 skills** your programs can help students develop and an **example curriculum** your program can use to help students develop these skills.

The 16 Career Clusters are organized into 6 Career Fields. Each Career Field in the model shows an **example curriculum** available from Beyond School Bells or another organization. We encourage programs to utilize the **BSB** [“So You Want To Be A...”](#) Career Education Curriculum, which explores skills and jobs in all 6 career fields.

BSB has created a diverse selection of curricula that will expose students to skills and opportunities in all the career clusters. Take a few minutes to visit the [BSB Curricula](#) page and utilize the free resources available to Nebraska Afterschool and Summer programs.

## CAREER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Career Planning and Management can help students learn about the different types of colleges and training programs in Nebraska. Nebraska Department of Education provides student and families with [Career Planning and Management Resources](#).

# NEBRASKA CAREER ACADEMIES AND POST-HIGH SCHOOL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Nebraska Training Schools and Programs	Number of Programs
Career Academies (High School) .....	24
State Universities .....	5
State Colleges .....	3
Community Colleges .....	6
Registered Apprenticeship Programs .....	89
Cosmetology and Barber Schools .....	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>

## APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships are a great training option for a career because they are an **“earn and learn”** model. Apprentices get hands-on experiences and training while earning a paycheck, and they receive a national certification when they complete their apprenticeship program.

Apprenticeships exist in most industries, including **construction, manufacturing, healthcare, and information technology**. Visit Nebraska Department of Education’s [Apprenticeship webpage](#) for more information on apprenticeships and schools.

### Apprenticeships

- Provide training for high wage, high skill, and high demand jobs.
- Let you earn a paycheck while you getting work experience.
- Encourage lifelong learning and skill development.
- Can be used in different industries and careers.
- Lead to a national credential.

### Workers get

- Higher wages
- Regular raises
- National certificate
- Professional mentor

## APPRENTICESHIP CAREER EXAMPLES\*

### Electrician

- High Wage, High Skill, High Demand Job
- Length of Training: 3-5 Years
- Average annual salary: \$50,000
- Annual Openings Statewide: 700

### Dental Lab Technician

- High Wage Job
- Length of Training: 9 months – 2 Years
- Average annual salary: \$45,000
- Projected Job Growth: 25%

\*Information from H3.ne.gov



# NEBRASKA CAREER ACADEMIES AND POST-HIGH SCHOOL TRAINING PROGRAMS

## CAREER ACADEMIES

Career Academies provide **specialized programs in high schools** based on local community and workforce needs. Career Academies let students “try on” a career field and get workplace experience as they prepare for training or college after high school.

There are different Career Academy models across Nebraska. Many Career Academies are **wrapped into current school buildings** to help them better serve students. Other Career Academies have a **training campus offsite**. Career Academies develop partnerships with post-high school training programs to provide students access to dual credit classes and to build up transfer credits for college courses. Career Academies in Nebraska grow each year. Please visit the [Nebraska Department of Education’s Career Academies webpage](#) for additional information.

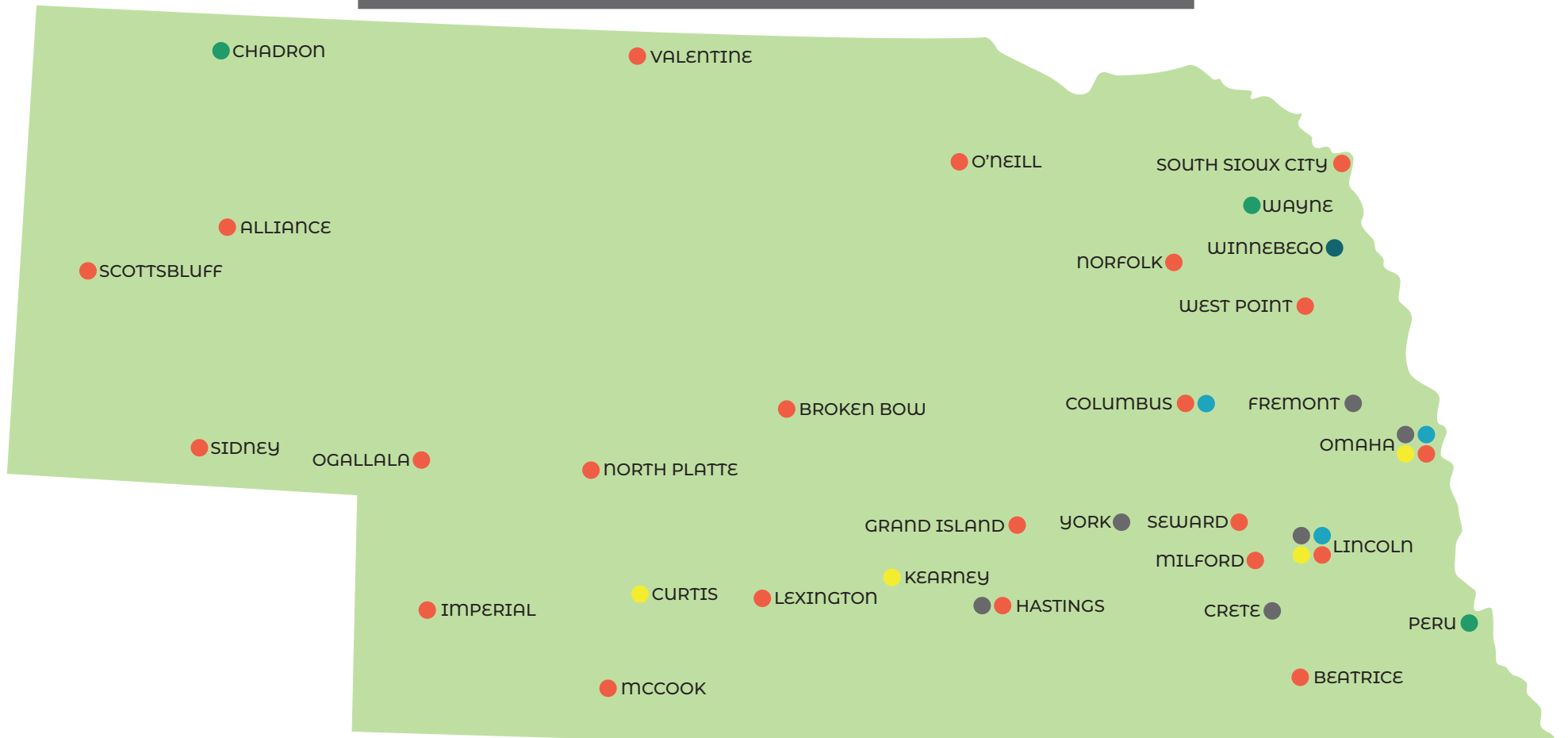
## NEBRASKA CAREER ACADEMY EXAMPLES

- Business, Marketing, and Management: Accounting
- Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources: Veterinary Science
- Communication & Information Technology: Programming & Software Development
- Skilled & Technical Sciences: Construction
- Health Sciences: Therapeutic Certification Services
- Family & Consumer Sciences: Early Childhood Development & Services

- How it could look: A high school might have a partnership with the Bryan Nursing program to help high school students earn credits towards a nursing degree.



# Post-High School Education and Training Opportunities



## STATE UNIVERSITIES

- University of Nebraska at Kearney**
  - o Kearney
- University of Nebraska at Omaha**
  - o Omaha
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln**
  - o Lincoln
- Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture**
  - o Curtis
- University of Nebraska Medical Center**
  - o Omaha

## STATE COLLEGES

- Chadron State College**
  - o Chadron
- Peru State College**
  - o Peru
- Wayne State College**
  - o Wayne

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Central Community College**
  - o Grand Island
  - o Columbus
  - o Hastings
  - o Lexington
- Metropolitan Community College**
  - o Omaha
- Mid-Plains Community College**
  - o North Platte
  - o McCook
  - o Broken Bow
  - o Imperial
  - o Ogallala
  - o Valentine

## Northeast Community College

- o Norfolk
- o O'Neill
- o South Sioux City
- o West Point

## Southeast Community College

- o Beatrice
- o Lincoln
- o Milford

## Western Nebraska Community College

- o Alliance
- o Scottsbluff
- o Sidney

## TRIBAL COLLEGE

- Little Priest Tribal College**
  - o Winnebago

## PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

- Creighton University**
  - o Omaha
- Bellevue University**
  - o Omaha
- Clarkson College**
  - o Omaha
- College of Saint Mary**
  - o Omaha
- Concordia University**
  - o Seward
- Nebraska Wesleyan University**
  - o Lincoln
- Doane University**
  - o Crete
- Bryan College of Health Sciences**
  - o Lincoln

## Hastings College

- o Hastings
- Midland University**
  - o Fremont
- Union College**
  - o Lincoln
- Nebraska Methodist College**
  - o Omaha
- York University**
  - o York

## APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING CENTERS

- o Omaha
- o Lincoln
- o Columbus