



NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT
PLANNING FOR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL







The GEAR UP Gazette

MAY

FOR PARENTS OF 7TH & 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

It's never too early for your student to start exploring their interests and possible careers. In Oregon, there are six broad career pathways. Ask your student which one(s) sound the most like them! Explore specific careers online (and the education required for different jobs) at *MyNextMove.org* or encourage students to ask questions of professionals in the fields they're interested in at your school's Career Day.

	Career Pathway:	Does your student:	Possible careers:
	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Like being outdoors? Care about protecting the environment and wildlife?	Forest conservationist Wildlife scientist Food scientist
	Arts, Information & Communication	Enjoy being creative through art, writing, or performing? Want to build websites or video games?	Website designer Journalist or Reporter Actor, singer, dancer
	Business & Management	Organize and lead groups Track and budget money Persuade others	Marketing /Advertising Entrepreneur Accountant or Finance
	Health Sciences	Like to care for others? Have interest in medicine, science, or health?	Doctor or Nurse Veterinarian Technician Dietician
	Human Resources	Enjoy helping or teaching others? Like to give back to the community?	Teacher Law Enforcement Politician
	Industrial & Engineering Systems	Like building things (or taking things apart) Enjoy doing experiments or solving problems	Engineer Electrician Pilot

DID YOU KNOW?

70% of all jobs in Oregon will require some form of postsecondary education by 2020.

Source: [The Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce](#)

COLLEGE MYTHS (AND REALITIES)

MYTH: My student needs to decide on her career before she goes to college.

REALITY: College is a time to explore. Except in a few specific cases, your student can choose a major in her sophomore year and still complete the degree in four years. A surprising number of students discover the field for them while taking a course they didn't expect to like. Your student shouldn't let well-meaning friends pressure her into deciding on a major field or a career at this time. She can take her time.

Source: pics.collegetrends.org/myths.cfm

PARENT CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Explore careers and interests.** There are many websites that try to help match personality and interests to potential careers. Visit them with your student – try *LearnHowToBecome.org*, *MyNextMove.org* or *WhoDoYouWant2B.com*.
- ☐ **Explore interests with your student and encourage involvement.** Talk to your student about the kinds of activities she is interested in – it doesn't have to be sports or an academically-related club. Consider potential careers and try to find activities related to fields he is interested in. Consider activities outside of school as well, like in the community or at church.
- ☐ **Review your student's schedule and class selections.** Make sure she is on track to progress from middle school and has a plan for the appropriate classes to take each year in high school for the type of career she might want.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and is a federally-funded program that helps rural, low-income middle and high schools prepare students for education after high school.

Visit oregongearup.org to learn more and access resources to help your students make a plan. © 2016 Oregon GEAR UP

COLLEGE. It's not a dream, it's a plan.