

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

You likely want your child to choose a career that has many employment opportunities, which is why it is important to look at what jobs are available. The following sectors and careers are promising in Windsor-Essex and are expected to continue to be promising in the future. You can learn more about these sectors and jobs on the Workforce WindsorEssex website:

www.workforcewindsor.essex.com



AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Representatives, Consultants, and Specialists
Nursery and Greenhouse Workers
Supervisors and Labourers, Food, Beverage, and Tobacco Processing



CONSTRUCTION

Construction Managers and Inspectors
Contractors and Supervisors, Carpentry Trades
Construction Millwrights
Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers



HEALTH SCIENCES

Pharmacists
Head Nurses and Supervisors
Registered Nurses
Social Workers



INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY

Computer Network Technicians
Computer and Information Systems Manager
Computer Engineers
Graphic Designers and Illustrators



LOGISTICS & TRANSPORTATION

Dispatchers and Radio Operators
Truck Drivers
Shippers and Receivers
Transportation Managers
Customs, Ship, and Other Brokers



MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing Managers
Welders & Related Machine Operators
Mechanical Engineering Technologists & Technicians
Engineers



TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

Food Counter Attendants, Kitchen Helpers
Food Service Supervisors
Retail Trade Supervisors
Bartenders
Hosts and Hostesses

Need More Information?

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CAREER PATHWAYS

There are four possible career pathways after high school. Each pathway has pros and cons and each one can lead to meaningful and promising employment. There is not one pathway that is better or worse than the others – it all depends on the needs and goals of your child.

■ Pros ■ Cons ■ Sample Pathway Careers

APPRENTICESHIP: You do years of paid training to become a journey person in a specific trade.

Earn while you learn: you can make money during your education and be eligible for grants that are available to apprentices.

Practical work experience: you get to experience the actual career during your education. There is a need in Windsor-Essex for skilled tradespeople.

You have to find an employer who will take you on as an apprentice.

An apprenticeship can lead to being a Construction Millwright, which is a promising career in the construction sector in Windsor-Essex! Construction millwrights install, maintain, troubleshoot, and repair industrial machinery and mechanical equipment. The local median wage for this career is \$27.20/hr.

For more information on apprenticeship, visit www.earnwhileyoulearn.ca

COLLEGE: You gain a diploma and often learn applicable skills.

A college diploma is often cheaper & requires less time than a university degree.

You gain practical knowledge and are prepared for specific job areas.

Some jobs may require a university degree.

A college diploma can lead to being a Computer Network Technician, which is a promising career in the Information, Communication, Technology sector in Windsor-Essex! Computer Network Technicians establish, operate, maintain, and co-ordinate the use of local and wide area networks (LANs and WANs), mainframe networks, hardware, software, and related computer equipment. The local median wage for this career is \$27.01/hr.

For more information on Ontario colleges, visit www.ontariocolleges.ca

UNIVERSITY: You gain a degree and often learn theoretical knowledge.

University grads generally make the most money over an entire lifetime.

Many jobs require a university degree.

Gain theoretical knowledge and critical thinking skills.

Usually the most expensive option; many students go into debt.

A university degree can lead to being a Pharmacist, which is a promising career in the Health Sciences sector in Windsor-Essex! Pharmacists compound and dispense prescribed medications, participate in research and development of pharmaceutical products, and provide consultative services. The local median wage for this career is \$53.60/hr.

For more information on Ontario universities, visit www.ouac.on.ca

WORKPLACE: You go from high school straight to work.

No need to pay for tuition, so you can save more money.

Can go for more education/training at any time.

Gain valuable work experience and become familiar with what you like and dislike in a career.

You may be underqualified for many jobs.

Going straight to the workplace can lead to being a Shipper-Receiver, which is a promising career in the Logistics and Transportation sector in Windsor-Essex! Shipper-Receiver's ship, receive, and record the movement of goods and stock to and from an establishment. The local median wage for this career is \$18/hr.

For information on Employment Ontario, visit www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/employmentontario/

*All sample career profiles are from Canada Job Bank. To learn more about these jobs and other careers, visit www.jobbank.gc.ca



THE CAREER TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS

A RESOURCE FOR HELPING YOUR GRADE 7/8 CHILD WITH CAREER NAVIGATION

This career toolkit will help you to support your child's career exploration by giving you some career and self-reflection strategies and introducing you to some of the promising employment opportunities in Windsor-Essex.



Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Education Parents Reaching Out grant, this resource was created by Workforce WindsorEssex in partnership with the Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board Parent Involvement Committee.

YOUR CHILD'S CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Your child is going to face a world of work that is constantly changing due to advancing technology and population changes. It is very possible that your child will one day work in a job that does not yet exist! It is important that your child be able to identify their interests and skills and learn how these can fit into the available jobs. This process is part of your child's career navigation. Emphasizing this process in grades 7 and 8 means that your child will enter high school better equipped to make course and career related decisions.

THE PROCESS

In grade 7 and 8, your child is still young and it is likely too early for them to make a career choice yet, but they are at a perfect age to explore careers and their own interests and skills. This toolkit will help you with the career exploration part of your child's career navigation. The career exploration cycle is outlined in the 4 steps below.



Here are some strategies that you can use to help your child with the 4 steps of this career exploration cycle.

1 SELF-REFLECTION

When examining their experiences, your child can ask:

- What did I like/dislike about this experience?
- What made me feel comfortable/uncomfortable?
- Did I learn anything about myself?
- Would I like to do this again?

Your child can also ask you for help with this. You can give them insight into different aspects of their self-knowledge such as:

- What are their strengths? Weaknesses?
- What do people admire in them?
- When do they seem to get bored?
- What do they lose track of time doing?
- In what situations or environments are they the most natural & relaxed?
- What subjects have they done well/poorly in?

Your child may also be interested in taking informal online career assessments. You can find an Online Assessment List here: <http://bit.do/oal>

2 KEEPING TRACK OF THIS SELF-KNOWLEDGE

Your child can keep track of this self-knowledge by recording it in a notebook or an electronic document. The more they learn about themselves, the more they can add and edit this self-knowledge and look for patterns (for example, if your child is always happy when they are creating, this would be a pattern). Once they find these patterns, they can begin looking at careers that may fit these patterns.

SELF-KNOWLEDGE

- What are my likes and interests?*
- What are my dislikes?*
- What are my skills?*
- What am I good at?*
- What motivates me to do work?*
- What working conditions do I prefer?*
- What are my values?*
- How do I learn best?*
- What are my weaknesses?*
- What do I think success looks like?*

What is this information?
What experiences have taught me this information?

Example: I like to be creative. I was happy when I was building Legos and when I was making a poster for school.

3 CAREER EXPLORATION

It would be great for your child to be exposed to as many careers as possible so that they know their options and can start to consider what would be best for them.

There are different ways that your child can explore careers:

- Share your own career journey (your successes, failures, choices, etc.) with your child.
- They can ask people (relatives, friends, etc.) about their careers. Encourage your child to ask people questions such as:

- Why did you choose this career?*
- What do you like/dislike about this career?*
- What do you do on an average day in your career?*
- What skills & education do you need to get into your career?*

- Identify the careers that are involved with their interests. For example, if your child enjoys video games, discuss the types of jobs that are involved in creating and selling those games.
- When you are out in the community, discuss the various careers you encounter.
- Explore your child's interests in different, fun ways. Watch movies, read books, or play games related to the interest so they can explore it further.
- Your child can do internet searches of specific career types (such as "creative careers"). Check out career video sites that make learning about careers interesting such as:

<http://www.careertrekbc.ca/> | <http://www.insidejobs.com/>

4 TRYING THINGS OUT

This is one of the most important parts of career exploration. Your child will learn more about themselves once they try out more things and can use this self-knowledge to explore careers. They will also learn more about careers and will develop new skills that may be valuable to them in the future. Here are some ways that your child can experience different things:

- **Trying extra-curricular activities or clubs**
- **Volunteering**
- **Job shadowing (Ex. Take Your Kid to Work days)**
- **Taking tours**

Once your child has tried something, they can go back to the self-reflection step and reflect on that experience.

SKILLS FOR YOUR CHILD'S CAREER NAVIGATION

Below are some of these skills and ways that you can help to build these skills in your child.

Responsibility/Accountability

Give them responsibility and hold them accountable. Allow them to complete tasks or projects on their own (such as painting their own bedroom).

Decision Making

Allow them to make as many decisions for themselves as possible. Provide them with choices that allow them to make decisions by weighing options.

Positive Attitude

Discuss the pride/self-fulfillment that comes from completing a task. Praise their efforts (not necessarily the outcome) when they are completing a task.

Leadership Skills

Encourage your child to teach you how to do something they are good at or knowledgeable about. Request their advice or feedback on something.

Planning/Goal Setting

Ask them to plan a day trip or family dinner. Create small goals with them and following up on their progress. Encourage them to pay attention to what motivates them to reach for their goals and what discourages them.

