

Pathways to Partnerships



PATHWAYS
TO PARTNERSHIPS

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PATHWAY TO DREAMS

Empowering Middle School Students
to Achieve Their Career Dreams



2025-2026 Pre-ETS Curriculum

10 Pre-ETS Lessons Per Grade Level

Introduction to the Pathway to Dreams

Pre-ETS Scope and Sequence for Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)

Overview

Welcome- to **Pathway to Dreams**, the Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) program designed specifically for students with disabilities in grades 6-8. The program's purpose is to introduce students to soft skills essential for school and workplace readiness, to set goals and explore career choices, and to learn self-advocacy. Each lesson is designed to be engaging, informative, and adaptable, ensuring that all students, regardless of their learning needs, can benefit from this valuable experience.

Program Structure

Lessons are designed to be completed within 30 minutes but can be extended to 45 minutes to allow for deeper exploration and practice. The lessons incorporate a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework to accommodate diverse learning styles and needs. This ensures that every student has equitable access to the content and can participate fully in the learning experience.

Using this structure helps meet the needs of all students by providing multiple means of engagement, representation, and action/expression. This approach is crucial in special education settings, where students have varying abilities, backgrounds, and learning preferences. Throughout the program, instructional lessons will:

- Engage students by offering various ways to participate in lessons.
- Represent information in multiple formats (e.g., visual, auditory, tactile) to cater to different learning styles.
- Allow students to express what they know through different means (e.g., writing, speaking, role playing, discussing).

Sample Accommodations

To ensure that all students can successfully participate in and benefit from the lessons, the following are sample accommodations for an inclusive setting that can be utilized as appropriate:

- Extended time for completing tasks or assignments.
- Mini-Breaks during lessons to prevent fatigue.
- Use of fidget tool
- Visual aids (pictures, etc.)
- Auditory supports like recordings or text-to-speech tools.
- Peer assistance or small group work to provide additional support.
- Alternative seating arrangements to reduce distractions.
- Use of technology (e.g., tablets, laptops) to assist with learning tasks.
- Modified materials (e.g., simplified text, larger print) to meet individual needs.
- Frequent check-ins and feedback to monitor progress and understanding.

Incorporating these accommodations will create an inclusive and supportive learning environment where every student can thrive and develop the skills necessary for future success.

Aligned Georgia State Standards

Sixth Grade State Standards	Eighth Grade State Standards
<p>ELAGSE6RI7: Integrate information presented in different media or formats as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.</p> <p>ELAGSE6SL2: Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.</p> <p>ELAGSE6SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.</p> <p>ELAGSE6L1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</p> <p>ELAGSE6L6: Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p>	<p>ELAGSE8SL4: Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.</p> <p>ELAGSE8SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.</p> <p>ELAGSE8L1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</p> <p>ELAGSE8L3: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.</p> <p>ELAGSE8L6: Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p>
Seventh Grade State Standards	CTAE Foundational Standards
<p>ELAGSE7L6: Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p> <p>ELAGSE7SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.</p> <p>ELAGSE7L1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</p> <p>ELAGSE7SL1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. c. Pose questions that elicit elaboration and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas. d. Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views and understanding.</p>	<p>CTAE-FS-2: Academic Foundations: Learners achieve state academic standards at or above grade level.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-3: Communications: Learners use various communication skills in expressing and interpreting information.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-4: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking: Learners define and solve problems and use problem-solving and improvement methods and tools.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-5: Information Technology Applications: Learners use multiple information technology devices to access, organize, process, transmit, and communicate information.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-8: Leadership and Teamwork: Learners apply leadership and teamwork skills in collaborating with others to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-9: Ethics and Legal Responsibilities: Learners commit to work ethics, behavior, and legal responsibilities in the workplace.</p> <p>CTAE-FS-10: Career Development: Learners plan and manage academic-career plans and employment relations.</p>
WIDA English Language Development	
<p>ELD1: Language for Social and Instructional Purposes: English language learners communicate for Social and Instructional purposes within the school setting.</p>	



Overview of Pre-ETS Topics

6th Grade		7th Grade
First Day	Introduction to Program	Introduction to Program
Lesson 1	Personal Interests & Strengths	Personal Interests & Strengths
Lesson 2	Career Inventory	Career Inventory
Lesson 3	Career Inventory	Self-Advocacy
Lesson 4	Self-Advocacy	Attitude/Mindset
Lesson 5	Goal Setting	Professional Communication
Lesson 6	Goal Setting	Work Ethic
Lesson 7	Communication Skills	Essential Workplace Skills
Lesson 8	Teamwork/Collaboration	Job Interview Skills
Lesson 9	Basic Workplace Skills	Employer Expectations
Lesson 10	Basic Workplace Skills	Employer Expectations

8th Grade	Adapted Curriculum
Introduction to Program	Introduction to Program
Personal Interests & Strengths	Strengths & Needs
Career Inventory	Work Preferences
Self-Advocacy	Career Interest Inventory
Professional Communication	Career Choices
Stress Management	Self-Advocacy
Organization	Communication Skills
Adaptability and Flexibility	Positive Appearance
Problem-Solving Skills	Positive Attitude & Teamwork
Developing a Resume	Positive Work Habits
Developing a Resume	Interview Skills

6th Grade Scope and Sequence Quick View

Lesson	Pre-ETS	Brief Description
Introduction to Program	N/A	Pre-ETS instructors introduce students to the curriculum and engage with interactive relationship building activities.
1. Personal Interests & Strengths	Job Exploration	Superhero Strengths: Uncovering Your Interests and Hidden Talents: This engaging lesson focuses on helping students identify and understand their personal interests and strengths. It includes an interactive vocabulary Kahoot quiz to introduce key terms, a group discussion to explore students' hobbies and skills, a personal reflection activity to deepen self-awareness, and a fun Strengths Charades game to wrap up the learning experience. Students will gain valuable insight into their unique talents and how these can shape their future aspirations.
2. Career Inventory - Part 1	Job Exploration	Career Quest: Discover Your Future: Students will embark on a journey to explore potential careers by watching a brief "All About Working" video that introduces key terms and completing a Career Interest Inventory to identify their personal job interests. To wrap up, students will participate in a reflective activity where they share their discoveries reinforcing their understanding and sparking excitement about their future possibilities. This lesson combines multimedia, self-discovery, and peer interaction to make career exploration fun and meaningful.
3. Career Inventory - Part 2	Job Exploration	Ready to be a Career Explorer? Reveal Your Top Picks and Begin Mapping Your Path: Students will dive into career exploration by watching a short video titled, "Intro to Career Clusters," which introduces key terms and Georgia's 17 Career Cluster categories. Following the video, students will engage in a fun, interactive game where they match specific jobs to the appropriate Career Clusters as each category is discussed. The lesson will conclude with students discussing their personal Career Interest Inventory results, helping them identify which clusters their interests align with and what potential jobs they might want to pursue within those clusters.
4. Self-Advocacy	Self-Advocacy	Speak Up! Introduction to Self-Advocacy: This lesson introduces students to the concept of self-advocacy. Through discussing various scenarios, they explore practical strategies such as speaking clearly, asking questions, and expressing feelings. The lesson culminates in students creating personalized self-advocacy kits, equipping them with tools and strategies to help them advocate for themselves in school and beyond.
5. Goal Setting - Part 1	Workplace Readiness	Goal Getter: Setting the Stage for Success: Students will learn the importance of setting achievable goals through the SMART criteria. The lesson features the 3-minute video, "SMART Goals for Kids," followed by a discussion and reflection on the content. The teacher will model the development of SMART goals, and students will work together with teacher guidance to build SMART goals as a group.
6. Goal Setting - Part 2	Workplace Readiness	Goal Crushers: Kickoff to Achieving Work Readiness: In this lesson, students will review the concept of SMART goals and individually define and create their own SMART goal tailored to their career aspirations and action steps. Students will wrap up the lesson participating in the "Goal Sorter Showdown: Racing to SMART Success" game where teams will compete showing their grasp of effective goal-setting strategies and teamwork skills.

7. Communication Skills	Workplace Readiness	Chat Champions: Building Communication Skills: This lesson is designed to empower students with essential communication techniques through engaging activities. Students will explore the fundamentals of effective communication. Through teacher modeling and interactive role-plays, they will learn to navigate various scenarios, such as handling disagreements respectfully, self-advocating when needed, and expressing emotions calmly. The lesson emphasizes practical skills applicable both in school and everyday interactions.
8. Teamwork/Collaboration	Workplace Readiness	Collab Crew: Teamwork Adventures Await: This dynamic lesson is aimed at highlighting the value of teamwork and collaboration. Through an interactive “Escape Room” activity, students engage in challenges that emphasize communication, problem-solving, and mutual support. As students actively participate in this experience, they not only learn the importance of working together effectively but also apply these skills in a fun and engaging way.
9. Basic Workplace Skills - Part 1	Workplace Readiness	Are You a Workplace Wizard? Let's Cast Those Essential Skills! In this lesson, students will practice basic workplace skills: communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Real-life examples will be used to illustrate the importance of those skills. In small groups, students will work through workplace scenarios that require the application of these skills promoting collaboration and critical thinking.
10. Basic Workplace Skills – Part 2	Workplace Readiness	Game On! Leveling Up in the Workplace: Students will learn about workplace etiquette and responsibility focusing on punctuality, dress code, and professional behavior. Real life scenarios will be used to illustrate the importance of those skills. Students will participate in an interactive game answering questions related to workplace etiquette and responsibility.

7th Grade Scope and Sequence Quick View

Lesson	Pre-ETS	Brief Description
Introduction to Program	N/A	Pre-ETS instructors introduce students to the curriculum and engage with interactive relationship building activities.
1. Personal Interests & Strengths	Job Exploration	Unleash Your Inner Hero: Discover Your Strengths and Passions: This lesson plan engages students through interactive activities and self-reflection, helping them to identify and understand their personal strengths and interests in a supportive environment
2. Career Inventory	Job Exploration	Ready to Dream Big? Exploring Your Ideal Career: After identifying their strengths and interests, students will use an inventory to begin exploring careers, reflecting on what they learned about themselves and how it might relate to future career choices.
3. Self-Advocacy	Self-Advocacy	Empower Yourself! Finding Your Voice: Students will engage through interactive discussions, practical activities, and reflection, fostering their understanding and application of self-advocacy skills in various aspects of their lives.
4. Attitude/Mindset	Workplace Readiness	The Power of Positive Vibes: Mastering Your Mindset: This lesson is designed to engage 7th-grade students in understanding the importance of mindset and attitude, while also providing practical strategies for fostering a positive mindset.
5. Professional Communication	Workplace Readiness	Communication Counts! Can You Flip the Switch? In this lesson, students will discuss the different types of communication they might use in different situations and environments. It introduces the idea that language/communication varies by context – and that it's important to understand what might be acceptable and expected in one setting may not be appropriate in another.
6. Work Ethic	Workplace Readiness	Level Up Your Life! Work Ethic: The Secret Sauce of Success! Students will understand what work ethic is, why it's important, and how they can develop a strong work ethic to achieve success in school and beyond.
7. Essential Workplace Skills	Workplace Readiness	Skills to Pay the Bills: Essential Workplace Know-How: Students will learn about essential workplace skills, understand their importance, and engage in interactive activities and reflection to help them apply these skills.
8. Job Interview Skills (Part 1)	Workplace Readiness	The Interview Playbook: Strategies for Success: From the basics of job interviewing skills to preparing for an interview, students will learn skills that equip them for future job success.
9. Job Interview Skills (Part 2)	Workplace Readiness	The Interview Playbook: Strategies for Success (continuation): Mock Interviews: Students will practice answering common interview questions, along with learning how to make a good impression using their knowledge from part 1.
10. Employer Expectations	Workplace Readiness	Boss Moves: Who Would You Hire? After looking at job descriptions and discussing candidate qualifications, students will complete their candidate review and make a recommendation to the HR director. They must defend their choices based on the employer's expectations of their assigned company.

8th Grade Scope and Sequence Quick View

Lesson	Pre-ETS	Brief Description
Introduction to Program	N/A	Introduction to Pathway to Dreams: Pre-ETS instructors introduce students to the curriculum and engage in interactive activities where they begin exploring ambitions, building relationships, and learn why networking is important when seeking a job.
1. Personal Interests & Strengths	Job Exploration	Unlock Your Potential - Embrace Your Strengths and Explore Interests: This lesson engages students with collaborative discussion and self-exploration to foster students identifying personal strengths and interests and reflecting on how those components impact future career choices.
2. Career Inventory	Job Exploration	Pathway to Success - Dream Job Quest: Students continue engaging in collaborative discussions as they apply previously identified personal interests and strengths, while exploring and evaluating career options. Students will complete a career inventory assessment to identify pathways of interest.
3. Self-Advocacy	Self-Advocacy	Rise Up and Speak Out! Mastering Self-Advocacy in the Workplace: This lesson engages students in discovering awareness about the importance of self-advocacy in the workplace and requesting accommodations.
4. Professional Communication - Writing	Workplace Readiness	Message Like a Pro: Students learn to distinguish between personal and professional communication, including basic components, tone and appropriate language, to communicate effectively based on an audience.
5. Stress Management	Workplace Readiness	Feeling the Pressure? Think Before you Act: Students learn to recognize common stressors and stress management techniques. Interactive activities will immerse students in applying skills acquired relating to the importance of appropriately responding and maintaining composure.
6. Organization	Workplace Readiness	From Mess to Success - Workplace Solutions: Students embrace effective organization skills and tools to empower them in enhancing productivity and success in academic and vocational settings. In reflection, students gain perspective on the impact organization has on being successful.
7. Adaptability & Flexibility	Workplace Readiness	Embracing Change - Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: This lesson educates students on how to cope with change by learning essential skills in adaptability and flexibility. Additionally, they discover the value of having a growth mindset versus a fixed mindset. Students learn that accepting change and taking on additional responsibilities will showcase their teamwork skills.
8. Problem Solving Skills	Workplace Readiness	Mind Bender – Unlock Your Problem-Solving Potential: Students learn effective problem-solving skills for personal and vocational environments, through application of critical thinking and decision-making strategies. Students learn to reflect on choices made for continuous self-improvement.
9. Developing a Resume – Part 1	Workplace Readiness	Launch Your Career - Resume Components: Students prepare to jumpstart their career in building knowledge of the components and structure, as well as the purpose, of a resume. Students will be introduced to tailoring their resume for specific job applications.
10. Developing a Resume – Part 2	Workplace Readiness	Launch Your Career - Resume Building: Students continue to build their expertise in crafting their resumes by learning strategies to showcase their skills and experiences to prospective employers.

Adapted Curriculum Scope and Sequence Quick View

Lesson	Pre-ETS	Brief Description
Introduction to Program	N/A	Pre-ETS instructors introduce students to the curriculum and engage students with interactive relationship building activities.
1. Interests, Strengths & Needs	Job Exploration	Building Blocks for Success In this lesson students begin their path to success by considering their strengths, areas of need, and conditions for success (accommodations) to become a successful employee.
2. Work Preferences	Job Exploration	Paving the Way for Success! Continuing along the path to success, students analyze personal vocational preferences to evaluate prospective career fields.
3. Career Interest Inventory	Job Exploration	Discover Your Dream Career Field Students engage in an interactive, visually supported assessment where they identify their preferred vocational areas, followed by analyzing choices to discover the career field of their dreams.
4. Career Choices	Job Exploration	Navigating Career Choices – Finding Your Dream Job! Students explore vocational opportunities in their selected career field, as they navigate down the path to identifying their ideal dream job that aligns with personal strengths, needs, and preferences.
5. Self-Advocacy	Self-Advocacy	Be Your Own Champion Students engage in interactive activities to learn fundamental self-advocacy skills and how to apply skills in diverse environments, to feel empowered when expressing personal needs and desires.
6. Communication Skills	Workplace Readiness	Communication Toolbox for Success This lesson equips students with skills for effective communication in building a toolbox of skills, such as initiating and responding in conversation, staying on topic, turn-taking, and body language.
7. Positive Appearance	Workplace Readiness	Polished and Positive – Shine Inside and out! Through this interactive lesson, students become equipped with skills for basic hygiene and grooming, appropriate dress, and etiquette in social situations, which are helpful across personal and professional environments.
8. Positive Attitude & Teamwork	Workplace Readiness	Empowerment Express: Developing Positive Attitudes In this lesson students engage in peer discussion and collaboration to learn and apply teamwork strategies, adaptability and flexibility for real-world scenarios, and solutions to common problems, which will empower them to be successful in future vocational settings.
9. Positive Work Habits	Workplace Readiness	Brighter Futures: Building Strong Traits In preparation for future job opportunities, students learn the difference between positive and negative work habits and why they are essential in the workplace.
10. Interview Skills	Workplace Readiness	Interviewing Like a Pro Students are immersed in acquiring key components of interview skills, including introducing themselves, components of a professional handshake, and appropriate body language.

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