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## **CAREER CONNECTIONS Grades 9-10**

### **Course Description:**

Students are introduced to future employment possibilities through a variety of community experiences. These consist of guest speakers and/or site visitations representing six career pathways. Assessment tools identifying interests, preferences and talents are completed in order to align exploration opportunities with future career choices. Effective decision-making and goal setting skills, informational interview skills, job applications and resume writing are addressed as part of the corresponding classroom instruction. The combined school/community components allow learners to explore future options through informed experiential practice.

### **Learner Objectives:**

#### **Unit 1: Self Assessment**

##### **The learner will....**

1. Identify personal aptitudes, interests, and talents.
2. Identify personality, learning styles and values.
3. Develop skills to set and attain reasonable goals.

#### **Unit 2: Career Exploration**

##### **The learner will....**

1. Identify Colorado Career Pathways – *Health and Related Services; Business, Marketing, Financial; Human Services; Arts, Humanities, Communications; Natural Resources; and Engineering and Industrial Technology.*
2. Evaluate self assessment results in relation to career opportunities.
3. Utilize a variety of resource options.
4. Demonstrate connections between coursework and work related experiences.

**Unit 3: Decision –Making and Goal Setting**

**The learner will....**

1. Identify the cause and effect of decisions.
2. Develop short and long term career and educational goals.
3. Evaluate choices and alternatives for problem solving and conflict resolution.

**Unit 4: Employment Readiness**

**The learner will....**

1. Acquire employability skills such as working on a team, problem solving, and organizational skills.
2. Apply job readiness skills to prepare for employment opportunities.
3. Demonstrate knowledge about the changing workplace.
4. Understand the importance of responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity, and effort in the workplace.

**Unit 5: Personal Finance**

**The learner will....**

1. Prepare a budget by setting financial goals, estimating income, and planning expenditures.
2. Identify the advantages and disadvantages of using credit.
3. Illustrate how to write and endorse a check, maintain a check register and balance a statement.