PARENT & EDUCATOR TOOLKIT

Career Readiness & Post-Secondary Pathways

Connecting High School Academics, Self-Discovery, and Future Career Realities for Student Success.

💡 **How to Use This Resource Guide**

Designed for high school staff, transition coordinators, and parents. Use these tools during IEP planning, classroom advisories, or family discussions to bridge the gap between classroom learning and post-secondary independence.

1. TRANSITION SERVICES & FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING

Core Pre-Employment Resources

Pre-ETS (Pre-Employment Transition Services)

Visit Pre-ETS Eligibility ↗

Provides foundational transition services to students with disabilities or learning differences. Features career exploration, job shadowing opportunities, workplace readiness training, and self-advocacy skill building, alongside a rich video library of real-world jobs.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Supports IEP transition goals, fulfills state work-readiness mandates, and offers structured video tools for classroom career units.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Prepares students for competitive employment and independent living, while building workplace-ready soft skills.

2. PERSONALITY & APTITUDE ASSESSMENTS

Connecting Self-Knowledge to Careers

Personality & Career Alignment Overview

Watch YouTube Video ↗

An engaging overview explaining how personality frameworks (like the Big 5) directly correlate with long-term job satisfaction, work style preferences, and sustained interest in a career path.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Excellent conversation starter for health, psychology, or advisory classes to build self-awareness and self-advocacy.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Prevents early job burnout by helping students choose work environments that fit their personal strengths and communication styles.

Futurescape by Britebound

Explore Futurescape ↗

An interactive, scenario-based quiz tailored specifically for middle and high school students. It places students in relatable situations to assess their natural decision-making and aligns results with concrete job matches.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Low-barrier entry point for younger or unmotivated students; works great as a warm-up activity in computer labs or advisory hours.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Introduces emerging careers and unexpected job families based on lifestyle choices and scenario preferences.

3. COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS & REALITY CHECKS

Data-Driven Career Exploration

Truity Personality & Career Assessments

Visit Truity ↗

Offers scientifically validated personality (TypeFinder, Enneagram, Big Five) and career inventory tests. Designed for upper high schoolers and young adults seeking deeper psychological self-understanding.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Informs writing prompts, capstone project reflections, and structured student-led IEP conferences.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Helps students articulate strengths in college entrance essays, scholarship applications, and job interviews.

O*NET Interest Profiler & Market Outlook

Open O*NET Profiler ↗

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. Maps student interest codes directly to projected job growth, salary ranges, required education levels, and daily job duties (an ideal alternative/supplement to MO Connections).

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Integrates math/economics concepts (salary vs. cost of living) and helps direct high school course selection based on career prerequisites.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Provides a sober "reality check" on earning potential vs. required schooling, ensuring realistic post-secondary planning.

4. POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS & LABOR DEPARTMENT TOOLS

Alternative Routes & Federal Data

TeenLife: Alternatives to 4-Year College

Read TeenLife Guide ↗

Breaks down non-traditional pathways including trade schools, gap years, apprenticeships, military service, certificate programs, and community college pipelines with clear definitions.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Perfect for whole-class Socratic discussions and reducing the diploma-track stigma in senior advisories.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Validates immediate workforce entry and technical trades as lucrative, respectable alternatives to 4-year degree debt.

CareerOneStop (U.S. Dept. of Labor)

Visit CareerOneStop ↗

A comprehensive portal offering local job searches, training program finders, resume builders, and skill matchers. Ideal for students who have no clear idea where to begin.

ACADEMIC & CLASSROOM INTEGRATION

Provides direct tools for CTE (Career & Technical Education) classes, cover letter units, and mock job applications.

POST-SECONDARY ALIGNMENT

Serves as a lifelong employment hub that students can continue using well into adulthood.

Tool Name	Best Used For	Target Grade Level	Key Outcome
Pre-ETS	Workplace readiness & accommodations	9th – 12th Grade	Workforce entry skills
Futurescape / Truity	Personality & scenario quizzes	8th – 11th Grade	Self-awareness & job matches