

## Georgia Career, Technical and Agricultural Education

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### Career Clusters: Preparing Georgia's Students for College and Career Readiness

#### Overview of Career Clusters/Pathways

- Georgia's 17 Career Cluster/Pathways provide a structure for organizing and delivering quality Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) programs.
- Modeled after the National Career Clusters configuration utilized by most of the United States, Georgia's 17 Career Clusters Model represents approximately 80 career pathways to help students navigate their way to greater success in college and career.
- As an organizing tool for curriculum design and instruction, the 17 Career Clusters provide essential knowledge and skills for the students' career pathways.
- This model functions as a:
  - Useful guide in developing programs of study that bridge secondary and postsecondary curriculum.
  - Enables students to have a complete range of career options for their graduation plans of study.
  - Through these career options, students may discover their interests and passions, empowering them to choose the educational pathway that may lead to success in high school, college and career.
- The 17 Career Clusters knowledge and skills encompass both secondary and postsecondary education and will strengthen and improve student transition from secondary to postsecondary education.

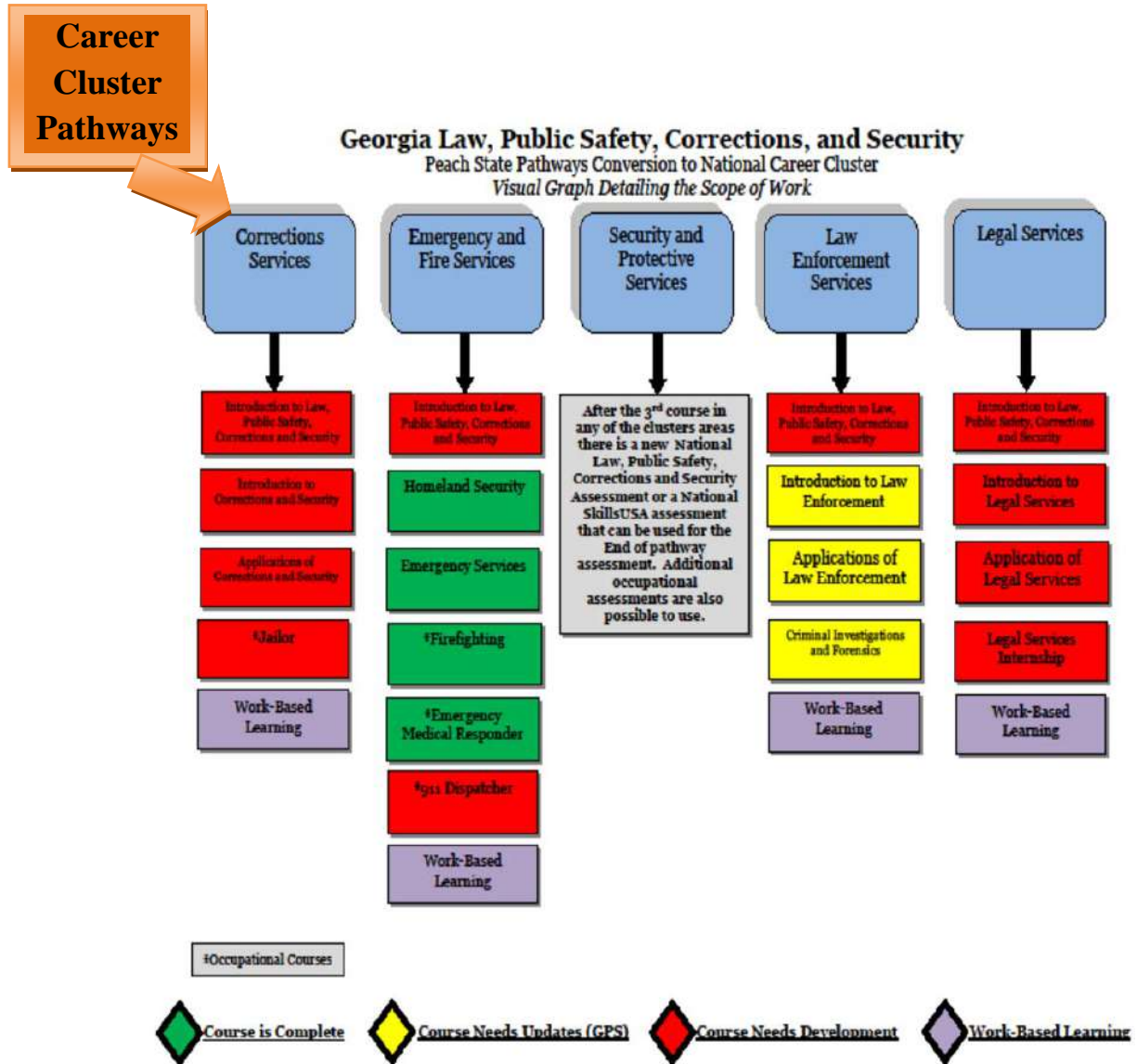
#### Georgia's Career Clusters

Architecture & Construction  
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources  
Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications  
Business Management & Administration  
Education and Training  
Energy Systems  
Finance  
Government & Public Administration  
Health Science  
Hospitality & Tourism  
Human Services  
Information Technology  
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security  
Manufacturing  
Marketing  
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics  
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

**An Example of a Career Cluster Model**

The Career Clusters organize both the career pathways and the related courses; therefore, the ***Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Cluster*** illustrated below demonstrates the supported career pathways:

- (a) Correction Services
- (b) Emergency and Fire Services
- (c) Security and Protective Services
- (d) Law Enforcement Services
- (e) Legal Services



### Soliciting Georgia Business and Industry Input

- Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathway courses will prepare a highly-skilled sustainable workforce that must be globally competitive.
- Georgia business and industry partners have indicated that in order to prepare that workforce, the coursework in the 17 Career Clusters must incorporate these very critical areas:
  - ✓ Academic skills
  - ✓ Technical skills
  - ✓ Strong work ethics
  - ✓ Job ready soft skills
  - ✓ Real work experiences
  - ✓ Problem solving skills

Georgia Department of Education is partnering with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government to receive this important data.

- ✓ A statewide survey has been developed and is now ready to be sent out to Georgia business and industry leaders.
- ✓ Input in the survey items was obtained from all three of these agencies.
- ✓ The survey will be sent out next **Monday, July 30, 2012** and will run through **August 12, 2012**.
- ✓ The survey will seek additional input on skills that should be included in each of the 17 Career Clusters.

### Incorporating Career Cluster Advisory Committee Input

Each Career Cluster will have an advisory committee consisting of:

- ✓ Business and industry leaders
- ✓ Administrators
- ✓ Counselors
- ✓ College and secondary teachers

The committee members will review Georgia's current Career, Technical and Agricultural Education standards for the Career Pathway courses, as well as determine soft skills and academic skills for each course.

Each career pathway course will incorporate:

- ✓ Academic Common Core Curriculum to ensure consistency across states
- ✓ Alignment with National Assessments and Student Credentialing Programs
- ✓ Relevant Content
- ✓ Higher-Order Thinking Skills
- ✓ Rigorous Technical Knowledge and Skills
- ✓ Soft Skills

A phased-in plan for implementation of the new Career Cluster Pathway courses will begin with the writing of the foundation course and continue through all of the designated pathway courses.

### **Students' College and Career Readiness Individual Graduation Plans**

The Career Clusters/Pathways will provide College and Career Readiness options for students.

- Georgia's comprehensive grades K-12 career development includes three levels:
  - a. Career Awareness in Grades K–5, with grade-level specific career activities culminating in a 5<sup>th</sup> grade portfolio.
  - b. Career Exploration in Grades 6–8, with career-related assessments and inventories culminating in an individual graduation plan by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - c. Career Management in Grades 9–12, with ongoing review and advisement of each student's individual graduation plan to ensure successful implementation.

Currently being implemented in Georgia:

- A Comprehensive Grades K-12 Counseling and Advisement Program in which:
  - Georgia 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will develop an Individual Graduation Plan that will be reviewed during high school on an ongoing basis with counselors, advisors, parents and the student.
  - Students may change their Individual Graduation Plans as they begin taking high school courses or making decisions throughout high school.
  - Students receive ongoing advisement from school counselors and teachers-as-advisors to become better prepared to create successful college and career ready graduation plans.