

Modernized Career Clusters Transition for School Counselors, Career Guidance Personnel & Educators

Professional Development Webinar: Session 2

Office of Career Readiness

Tuesday, June 23, 2026



**SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

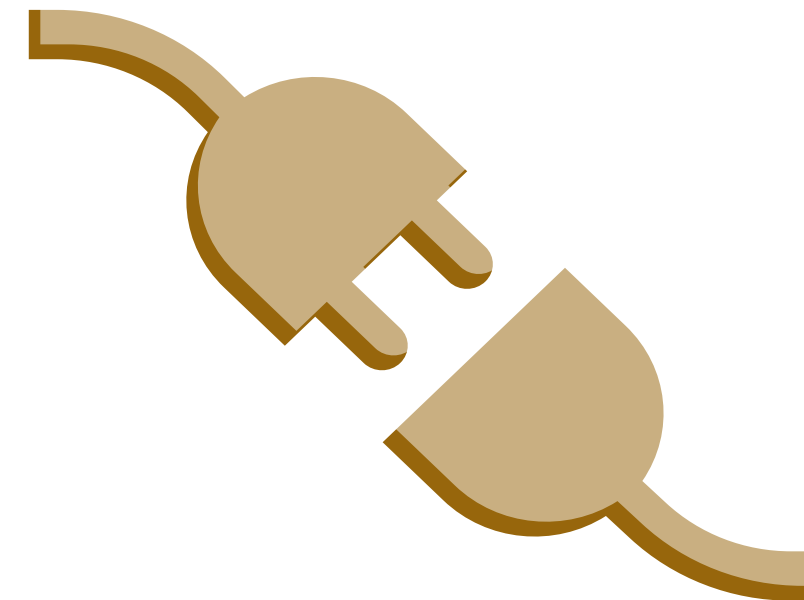
Purpose

The day will be a success if you leave feeling:

INFORMED



CONNECTED



Interactive Poll

How confident
are you in
discussing the
modernized
career clusters
with students,
parents, etc.?

- 1** – Not confident at all
- 2** – Slightly confident
- 3** – Moderately confident
- 4** – Confident
- 5** – Very confident



Agenda

01 Intro & Overview

- Landing Page
- Quick References
- Common Language Review

02 EEDA & IGPs

- What's Changing
- Why It Matters
- Roles in EEDA
- Utilizing Majors & Career Clusters in Career Advising

03 Roles & Practical Takeaways

- School Counselors
- Career Guidance Personnel
- Teachers
- Career Clusters In Action!



Landing Page

Access the Landing Page to find all links included in this presentation.

<https://bit.ly/4u0OeGO>



Quick References

- Advance CTE
 - Resources and Visuals
- Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW)
- Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA) – SC's 2005 law establishing Personal Pathways to Success
- Palmetto Pathways
- Perkins V – Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, the federal law that governs CTE
- Satchel
- Student Reporting Procedures Guide (SRPG)
- Tiered Certification Framework Guide
- CTE Course and Program Guide – Coming Soon!
- School Counseling and Career Guidance Model – Coming Soon!



Common Language: Focus For Today

Career Cluster	A broad organization of careers to help students explore interests and make informed education decisions; Aligned with CTE to provide real-world, skills-based learning.
Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)	Annual planning document for students, parents, and counselors.
Major	District-specific group of related elective courses, CTE or non-CTE, aligned to student interests.
Pathway	A person's full career journey- from education to certifications to career progression.
Program/Program of Study	The state-approved sequence of CTE courses tied to a CIP code.
Work-based Learning (WBL)	A school coordinated and sponsored structured, supervised workplace experience that connects classroom instruction to real-world application.



Which term from today would you like more support or clarity on?

Career Cluster	A broad organization of careers to help students explore interests and make informed education decisions; Aligned with CTE to provide real-world, skills- based learning.
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EEDA & IGPs in SC



Why This Matters

Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA) Requirement:

Students must develop an Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) starting in 8th grade. The IGP must be aligned to career clusters and a declared major (starting in 10th grade).

The IGP process in South Carolina promotes an ongoing collaboration between counselors, career specialists, educators, parents, and students.

Office of Career Readiness

Mission

The Office of Career Readiness exists to ensure that every learner in SC can access a high-quality, workforce-aligned education pathway that leads to personal success and economic mobility.

Vision

To lead the nation in delivering transformative (career readiness and adult education) systems that empower every South Carolinian, regardless of background or age, to thrive in a dynamic, opportunity-rich workforce.



What Is an IGP?

- Individualized, personalized graduation & career plan
- Built with student, family, and school annually
- Includes post-secondary goals, career clusters, majors, and coursework plans

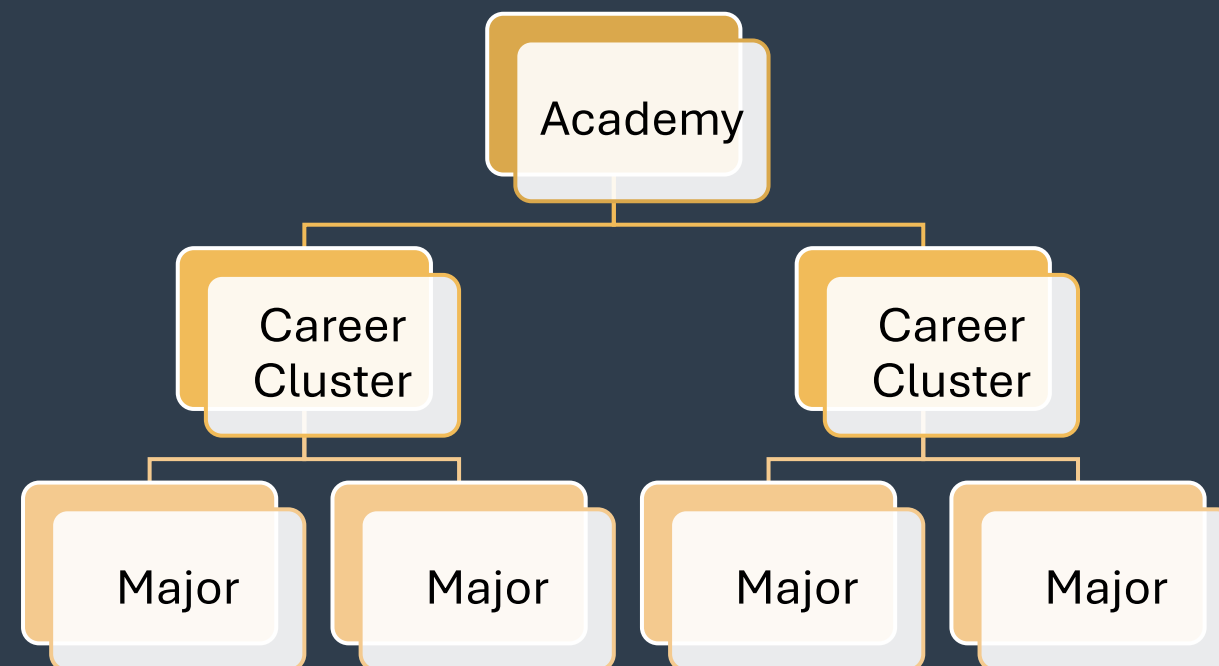
IGPs are not just compliance—they are the central career advising tool in SC.



EEDA Majors & Curriculum Framework

A district or school defined pathway requiring four aligned course credits within a career cluster. Before the end of the second semester of the tenth grade, students shall have declared an area of academic focus (major) within a cluster of study.

A comprehensive curriculum framework includes the following elements:



Courses may include state approved and/or local board approved courses based on district/school specific curriculum framework.

EEDA majors must be selected by students in grades 10-12, and those selections are documented in their Individualized Graduation Plan.

CTE Programs

A CTE Program is a sequence of courses within a state-recognized Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, determined by the South Carolina Department of Education Office of Career Readiness and tied to the CIP Code.

A CTE Completer refers to a student who has earned the required units in a state recognized CTE Program.

A CTE Completer who earns the appropriate certification(s) are considered Career Ready.

The state recognized CTE programs require between **3 to 8 Carnegie units** to complete the program.

The units needed to earn completer status are listed in the STUDENT REPORTING PROCEDURES GUIDE.



EEDA Majors vs CTE Completers

EEDA Majors	CTE Completers
4 Required Credits	3-8 Required Credits
District Specific	State Determined
Academic, Elective, and CTE Courses	CTE Courses
Used in EEDA Reporting	Used in School Report Card Rating



South Carolina's Transition to the Modernized Framework

- South Carolina has adopted the modernized career cluster framework and aligned all existing state CTE programs within these updated clusters to reflect the new model.
- Cross-cutting clusters in SC include:
 - Digital Technology
 - Management & Entrepreneurship
 - Marketing & Sales
- This updated career cluster system aligns seamlessly with the pathways and industry-recognized tiered certifications necessary for students to earn Career Ready designation and CTE Completer status.



Caring for Communities

Education

Early Childhood Education
Family and Consumer Sciences
Family Systems and Mental Health
Introduction to Teaching

Healthcare & Human Services

Barber/Master Hair Care
Biomedical Sciences
Cosmetology
EMS
Esthetics
Healthcare Science
Nail Technology
Natural Hair Braiding
Practical Nursing
Public Health
Sports Medicine

Public Service & Safety

Air Force JROTC
Army JROTC
Coast Guard JROTC
Marine Corps JROTC
Navy JROTC
Space Force JROTC
Paralegal Systems Technology
Law Enforcement Services
Emergency and Fire Management Services
Public Management and Administration
Governance

Building and Moving

Advanced Manufacturing

Aerospace Engineering
Core Engineering
Electronics Technology
Integrated Production Technology
Machine Technology
Mechatronics Integrated Technologies
Metal Fabrication
Pre-Engineering
Siemens Engineering
Welding technology

Construction

Building Construction Technology
Cabinetmaking
Carpentry
Electrical Line Worker Technology
Electricity
HVAC/R Technology
Masonry
Plumbing

Supply Chain & Transportation

Automotive Collision Repair Technology
Automotive and Hybrid/BEV
Commercial Vehicle Operation
Diesel Engine Technology
Drone Technology
Global Logistics & Supply Chain Management
Power Equipment Technology

Cross-Cutting Clusters

Digital Technology

Computer and Information Systems
Security/Information Assurance
Computer Science
Game and Interactive Media Design
Infomatics
Information Support and Services
Networking Systems
Programming and Software Development
Web and Digital Design

Management & Entrepreneurship

Administrative Services
Business Information Management
General Management
Human Resource Management
Operations Management

Marketing & Sales

Marketing Analytics
Marketing Communications
Marketing Management
Merchandising
Real Estate

Creating & Experiencing

Arts, Entertainment, & Design

Architecture/Mechanical Design
Digital Art and Design
Fashion Design & Apparel
Construction
Graphic Communication
Interior Design
Media Technology

Hospitality, Events, & Tourism

Baking and Pastry
Culinary Arts Management
Hospitality and Tourism
Management

Cultivating Resources

Agriculture

Agricultural Mechanics & Technology
Biosystems Engineering
Technology
Horticulture
Plant and Animal Systems

Energy & Natural Resources

Clean Energy
Environmental and Natural
Resource Management
Innovations in Science and
Technology

Investing in the Future

Financial Services

Academy of Finance
Accounting
Banking Services
Business Finance
Insurance
Securities and Investments

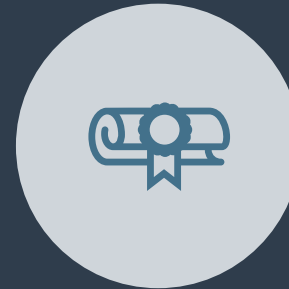
Access the Modernized National Career Clusters® Framework guidebook here



Career Clusters & IGPs in South Carolina



Career Clusters provide the framework for organizing career pathways and programs of study



Individual Graduation Plans (IGPs) use career cluster selection to guide student course planning



Students explore career clusters to identify interests, strengths, and future career goals



IGPs align academic courses, CTE programs, and work-based learning within a selected cluster



Career cluster alignment ensures intentional planning toward graduation and post-secondary success



School counselors and career specialists facilitate this connection through annual IGP conferences



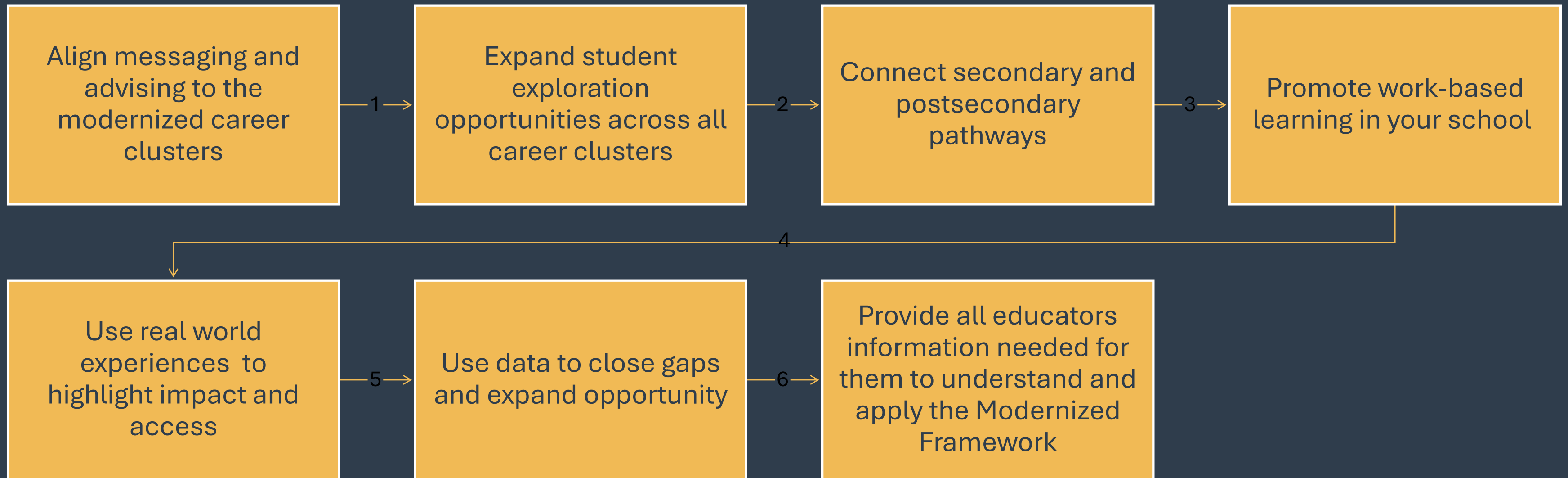
Educators enhance this process by providing career connections in the classroom



Roles & Practical Takeaways



Role of School Counselors



Role of Career Specialists

The career specialist supports stakeholders in delivering career services to students through the “Learning to Work” component of the South Carolina Comprehensive School Counseling & Career Model (under revision as of May 2026).

Career Specialists' responsibilities are encompassed in the thirteen indicators outlined in EEDA Section 59-59-100.

Why IGPs Matter for Educators

- Students discover careers in your classrooms
- Your insights shape pathway decisions
- Academic courses, electives, and CTE courses support state-required career planning process



Role of Educators

Reinforce career exploration and career ready practices beginning at an early age

Help students understand how their course choices connect to career goals and graduation requirements

Recommend students for WBL opportunities connected to your content area

Provide real-world career examples in the classroom



Strengthening Collaboration Across Roles

- Provide information about foundational skills needed for your course
- Share updates on relevant certifications (if applicable)
- Provide detailed course summaries to students and parents
- Provide general program and pathway information for students and parents
- Recommend relevant WBL opportunities
- Collaborate with CTE directors and other administrators to plan future opportunities, course offerings, etc.



Knowledge Check Question

Which of the following best describes how educators support students within career pathways and program sequences?

- A. Only provide course grades and monitor academic progress
- B. Focus primarily on classroom instruction without connecting to careers
- C. Provide course information, share certification updates, recommend work-based learning opportunities, and collaborate with staff to support student pathways
- D. Allow students to independently choose courses without guidance or planning



Career Advising Resources

- [Part 1 Webinar Link \(Webinar Hub\)](#)
- [The Role of School Counselors in a Career Center](#)
- [Career Specialist Toolkit](#)
- [IEP/IGP Guidelines](#)
- [SCOIS](#)
- [CHE Preparing for College Resources](#)
- [Regional Career Specialist Roster](#)
- [Priority Occupation Dashboard](#)
- [Let's Go! CAREERS](#)
- [Alternative School Programs](#)
- [Web Resources for Military Interest](#)
- [Industry Engagement Toolkit | Find Your Future](#)

Padlet Resources

[School Counseling & Career Guidance Padlet](#)

[WBL Padlet](#)

[SCOIS Padlet](#)

[Academic Accountability Padlet](#)





Career Clusters in Action



“From Jobs → Pathways → IGP”

- 🎯 Interactive Activity
- 🕒 Time: 5–7 minutes
- 🎯 Purpose: Help participants actively connect career clusters to real jobs and IGP conversations

Read your assigned student profile and discuss:

- Which career cluster aligns?
- If you were leading this student's IGP meeting, how would you guide the discussion?
- What additional information do you need to assist the student?





Student Profiles

Read your assigned student profile and discuss:

- Which career cluster aligns?
- If you were leading this student's IGP meeting, how would you guide the discussion?
- What additional information do you need to assist the student?

Alex	Jordan	Taylor	Cameron
Likes: Building things, fixing bikes, working with hands	Likes: Helping people, volunteering, babysitting younger kids	Likes: Drawing, creating videos, social media	Likes: Solving problems, math, figuring out how things work
Dislikes: Sitting still for long periods	Dislikes: Working alone all day	Dislikes: Strict rules and routines	Dislikes: Group projects
Favorite class: Technology / STEM	Favorite class: Health / PE	Favorite class: Art / Digital Media	Favorite class: Math



Shared Takeaways

Career readiness is a shared responsibility beyond the classroom.

The Modernized Career Clusters Framework helps educators:

- Break down silos
- Respond to workforce needs
- Create meaningful pathways

Every educator plays a role through:

- Career exploration
- Skill development
- Pathway preparation





Interactive Post Poll

How confident are you in discussing the modernized career clusters with students, parents, etc.?



July Webinar

Modernized Career Cluster Best Practices: Bridging Education & Work

- Wednesday, July 15, 2026
- 11:00 am –12:00 pm



Feedback Survey



Presenters:

Dr. Erin Clarke

Dr. Herb Bocchino

https://scde.formstack.com/forms/ocr_pd_feedback_survey





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