Where to Start?

There are several ways to explore careers that are related to a particular field. Teachers can help students explore many career options within their area of instruction. Here are some ways to begin.

1. **Career Clusters.** Career Clusters help students expand career options. To get there:
   a. Click on Occupations on the left-side menu
   b. Click on *by Cluster* on the left-side menu
   c. Choose a Cluster that relates to your field

   In the Cluster description students will discover all the occupations in the cluster, how occupations fall into different pathways, and the level of education and wages for each occupation in the cluster.

   *For example, students in the Health-Human Services classes or in Sports Medicine, would explore careers in the Health Science Cluster.*

   **ACTIVITY:** Choose the [Exploring Careers](#) Activity on the right side of the main Clusters page to start research of a career from the Clusters.

2. **Occupation Descriptions.** Occupations help students understand what they would be doing for the 80,000 hours of their career in a particular occupation. This is also where they learn how to prepare for the occupation.

   To get there:
   a. Click on Occupations on the left-side menu
   b. Choose the occupation to explore in the alphabetical list

   **ACTIVITIES:** [Comparing Two Careers](#) or [Research a Career](#). Both are found on the right side of the main Occupations by Title page.

3. **Educational Programs.** Educational Programs help students understand what they will be learning in their postsecondary training. These can also help you show that what the students are learning in your program will help them in their postsecondary education. They will also learn the schools that offer their chosen training program.

   To get there from within an Occupation description:
   a. Go to an occupation description either from a cluster listing or from the alphabetical occupation list.
   b. In the occupation description topic list (under the grey line at the top of the page) click on Educational Programs.
   c. Click on an Educational Program to go to the training program description.

   *For example, if I am looking at the Sign Language Interpreter Occupation Description, I would go to Educational Programs in the description, then click on the Educational Program American Sign Language.*
To go directly to an Educational Program description:
   a. Click on Educational Programs on the left-side menu.
   b. Click on the Educational Program in the alphabetical list
      OR
   c. Click on by Cluster, choose an Educational Cluster, then choose an
      Educational Program from the Cluster list.

For example, if I’m teaching Automotive Technology and want to see Educational
Programs in the Mechanic and Repair Technologies cluster, I would see in
addition to automotive technology there are programs that train people in boat
maintenance, aviation maintenance, diesel technology, motorcycle repair and
more!

4. **Schools.** Help students learn the schools that offer the training they need
for their chosen careers. Also help them understand the admission
requirements, costs, etc.
   To get there from an Educational Program description:
   a. Click on the School Name in the list of schools that offer the program.

To get there when the student knows the school they want to attend:
   a. Click on Schools on the left-side menu
   b. Click on the name of the school in the alphabetical list.

Optional: If students want to find schools outside of the state of Washington,
every page that has schools on it has the ability to change to another state. OR,
students can do a **School Search** and request multiple states. The **School
Search** also allows them to enter other criteria that may be important to them
(sports, costs, educational programs, activities, etc.), and to **Compare Schools**.

**ACTIVITIES:** **Which Training Plan** and **What Will My Career Cost.** Both
are found on the right-side of the Schools index page.

**MORE ACTIVITIES**

1. **Write a Resume**
   a. Write a resume as if you were applying to one of the careers related
to your class (students can NEVER practice this enough). Use the
WOIS description to write the objective and the summary of
qualifications.

For example, first explain how important a good resume is. As a first impression,
it is what helps you get the job interview. If the student is in Digital Photography,
and the occupation targeted is Camera Operators, the Objective for the resume
might be “To obtain a job where I can use video cameras to film movies and
documentaries.” This takes the first line in the occupational summary, combined
with the first line in the 3rd paragraph of the occupational summary. Summary of
Qualifications might be (found in the Task List of the WOIS description:
“Ability to control lenses, filters and camera mounts for various effects”
“Work well as part of a production team”
“Good eye for set or location observation to determine lighting requirements”