

## Is My Teen Ready for the Real World?

Is your teen on track to develop the skills needed to succeed in college or in a career? Pay attention to grades and school attendance. Employers and college admission representatives look at high school attendance and grades as a sign of how well they'll do in college classes or on the job.

**College/career plan at school.** Ask your teen's teachers or counselors what classroom activities your teen is involved in related to college and career exploration. How structured is the high school's career planning?

**Hobbies and extracurricular activities.** What classes, clubs or afterschool activities is your teen most interested in? Which technical or soft skills do those activities develop? Are any of these activities related to career interests?

**Attitude.** People with a positive self image are more likely to make and achieve their goals. Does your teen have a positive view of self and of the future? The best thing you can do to improve your child's outlook is to be a positive role model.

### Assessment Information

All Minnesota high schools use standardized tests to follow student improvement. These tests are one way to measure your teen's level of knowledge in subject areas important to employers and colleges.

Seeing how your teen's knowledge matches potential jobs is important. But knowing which jobs match your teen's personality is also valuable.

The interest assessment on the next page is based on Holland's Interest Inventory. Take the assessment with your teen and talk about which careers fit your teen's interests.

If you already know your teen's Holland Interest Profile, you can jump to page 5 to match their interest code to Career Clusters.

This interest assessment is just one of many. See page 19 for other assessments and career exploration options.

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