



## Exploratory Tasks: *Where will your journey take you?*

# GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Have you ever wondered who keeps the government running? Who makes policies to keep us safe? Who manages money to run the government, provide education, fix our roads and assist those in need? All of these are the responsibility of professionals in the Government and Public Administration career cluster.



### GOVERNANCE PATHWAY

People with careers in this pathway are responsible for making and carrying out public policies. Elected officials and their staff research, debate and vote on a variety of policies related to criminal justice, economics, education, etc.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** A student council shares ideas, interests and concerns with teachers and school principals. Officers are elected by the student body. What office are you best suited for, e.g., president, treasurer, secretary, etc.? Research the **duties of student council offices**. Use the information to create a 30-60 second campaign advertisement or poster explaining why students should vote for you.

### NATIONAL SECURITY PATHWAY

The military provides training and work experience for multiple specialists who are responsible for keeping our country safe. These individuals work in a wide variety of occupations, such as running a hospital, maintaining a helicopter, operating a nuclear reactor and programming computers.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** How do we keep top-secret messages private? To do that, cryptologists create and solve coded messages. Ciphers are the instructions for converting a message into a set of symbols, e.g., A=1, B=2, etc. Research **how to create cipher**. Use the information to create a hidden message for others to solve.

### FOREIGN SERVICE PATHWAY

People who work in this pathway serve in embassies, consulates and other diplomatic missions around the world. They analyze political and economic events and work to ensure the safety of American citizens abroad.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** Cultural diplomacy can be described as actions based on the exchange of diverse ideas, values, traditions and other aspects of culture or identity. Culture can include clothing, food, traditions, ceremonies, spiritual practices and beliefs, language, family structure and communication styles. Create a public service announcement (PSA) to inform, promote and celebrate **cultural diversity** in your classroom and local community.

#### **What Is a Career Cluster?**

Career Clusters are a way to organize career options. There are **16 Career Clusters** in the National Career Cluster Framework. They are further divided into specific pathways that can lead you to a successful future.

#### **What Are Career Pathways?**

Each of the 16 Career Clusters are divided into approximately 80 Career Pathways. The pathways are further divided into specific careers that share similar skills.

A Career Pathway offers a range of entry options, from entry-level positions that require a high school diploma or industry certificate to those that require a professional degree.

## PLANNING PATHWAY

Professionals in this pathway develop plans to help communities make decisions about how to use their land and resources to build homes, shopping centers, hospitals, recreational centers, etc.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** How could you improve your community? Draw a map of your community and identify businesses, residential areas, public services, e.g., medical, courthouse, police/fire, schools, parks, etc. Identify the top three areas for building and/or improvement. Create a ***community improvement plan*** describing the improvements needed for each.

## REVENUE & TAXATION PATHWAY

Individuals in this pathway make sure that businesses and individuals pay their fair share of taxes. They review tax returns, conduct audits and collect overdue taxes.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** ***How many different taxes do adults pay?*** How much are they required to pay? Create an infographic that explains types of taxes and/or state/local tax rates.

## REGULATION PATHWAY

Specialists in this pathway usually have expert knowledge about an industry, the environment or technology and the related laws and rules of each. They use this expertise to oversee regulations to protect our health, safety and the environment.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** How do government agencies keep us safe? Create an explanatory poster of ***government regulatory agencies***, e.g., Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), etc.

## PUBLIC MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION PATHWAY

These professionals manage public services such as transportation and utility systems and oversee the use of resources that include finances and facilities.

**EXPLORATORY TASK:** Who manages public resources in your community? Create an ***organizational chart*** of your ***community leaders***, e.g., mayor, magistrate, sheriff, etc. Include a description of the duties or responsibilities of each.

### *How Can I use Career Pathways?*

Career Pathways are planning tools to help you prepare for your future career goal. They provide a map of required courses at both the high school and college level.

A pathway also lists opportunities to earn college credit, industry certificates or gain real-world experience while in high school.

### *What Is an Industry Certificate?*

Industry certifications are credentials recognized by business and industry that demonstrate mastery of necessary knowledge and/or skills.

### *Discover More*

Choose a career in one of the pathways to discover:

- Demand for this career
- Location of jobs
- Starting wage
- Education requirements
- High school pathway
  - Classes
  - Dual/articulated credit
  - Industry certificates
  - Work-based learning
- Related careers