

## **Erie County Career Pathways Alliance**

Cross-Sector Collaboration to Prepare the Future Workforce

July 26, 2022

**Mary Bula** 

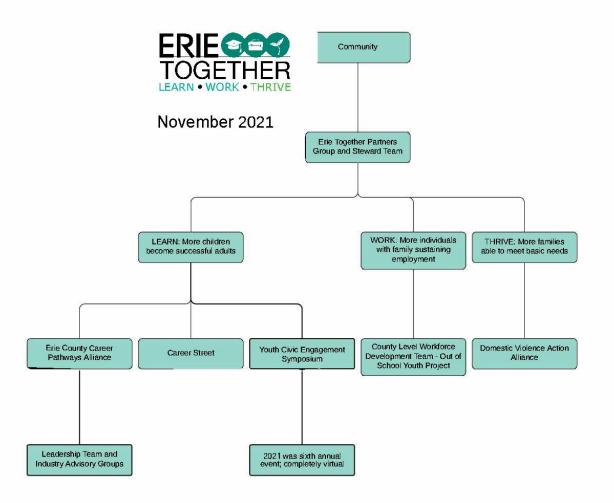
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## ERIE TOGETHER STRUCTURE AND OBJECTIVES





# LEARN: MORE CHILDREN BECOME SUCCESSFUL ADULTS



## Career exploration is key to students' future success:

- Helps them connect the dots between skills learned in school and how they apply in the real world.
- Allows them to better understand the scope of opportunities available to them.
- Motivates them to set goals, persevere over challenges and more intentionally engage in their education.



ET's focus on career exploration began in 2012.

- **GOAL:** 80% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders with three or more experiences by the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- **REALITY:** 12.7% with three or more; **40.5%** with none.

We had **a lot** of work to do.



## **OUR RESPONSE:**

and
ERIE COUNTY
CAREER PATHWAYS ALLIANCE



## **Step 1: CAREER STREET**

- Web-based "matchmaking" platform for employers and educators to provide career exploration experiences.
- Houses more than 400 experiences.
- 37 schools and almost 300 employers registered on the site.



## **CAREER STREET (cont'd)**

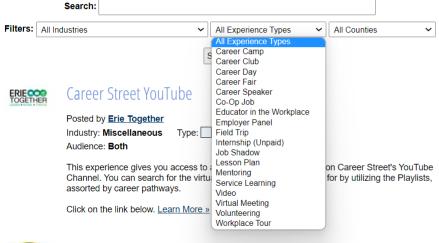
- Holds informational resources for schools, students and/or families to access – career interviews, videos, pathways flyers, etc.
- Led by director, Jennifer Pontzer, hired in 2014 to work with schools and employers.
- Since its launch, Career Street has facilitated over 46,000 student experiences!



#### Career Street - Paving The Way To Your New Career

#### Available Experiences

View all of the experiences available for students in your county including internships, job shadows, career days, guest spearkers, and more! Please note, "virtual" experiences are not differentiated by county and available for *all* students in participating school districts.









#### **Newly Added Experiences**





Industry: Government & Public Administration

Type: Career Speaker

Audience: K12

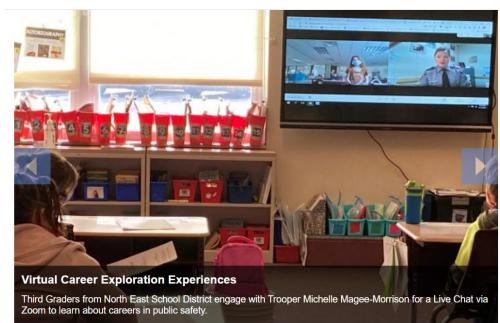
Parker LORD at Your Career Day

Career Day

Showcase ☐ Video

**Decision Associates Employer** 





#### **Career Street is Ready for You!**

Join us now to provide career education opportunities for youth in our region!

Are you a business, organization or school that wants to get involved?





#### Login or Register

#### Newly Added Experiences



Eriez Manufacturing Employer

Showcase Video



Hospital Tour

Workplace Tour



Coldwell Banker Employer Showcase

☐ Video



<u>Decision Associates Employer</u> <u>Showcase</u>

Video



Parker LORD at Your Career Day

Career Day



EMTA at Your Career Day
Career Day

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HOME

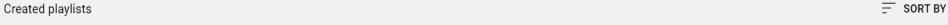
**VIDEOS** 

**PLAYLISTS** 

**CHANNELS** 

**ABOUT** 

Q





Entrepreneurship VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Youth Civic Engagement Symposium

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Pathway Information Sessions VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Welcome to Career Street! (How- Human Services to videos) VIEW FULL PLAYLIST

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Arts & Communication

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



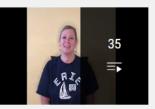
**Engineering & Industrial** Technology

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Science & Health

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



Business, Finance & Information Technology

VIEW FULL PLAYLIST



## STEP 2: ERIE CO. CAREER PATHWAYS ALLIANCE (ECCPA)

In 2015/16, our community's focus turned to "career pathways"

- Engage educators and students in dynamic careerconnected teaching and learning
- Create paths for success in postsecondary education and training and careers



## ECCPA (cont'd)

- National Center for College & Career Transitions (NC3T) did half-day workshop
- Discussed the impact of career pathways on schools, students, employers and the community
- Asked for go/no go on moving forward. Answer was yes and asked Erie Together to facilitate



## ECCPA (cont'd)

Mission: To implement a countywide career pathways system that successfully prepares Erie County students for post-secondary education and training and future careers.

Structure: Organized around five career pathways encompassing 16 industry clusters; following research- based framework developed by NC3T.



## **ECCPA Process**

#### K-12 initiative

- Grounded in local data and need
- Aligned with <u>Future Ready PA</u> & <u>CEW Standards</u>
- Develop and deploy age-appropriate experiences; document through "templates" for replication



### **Schools**

K-12 school districts
CTCs
College/Universities



## **Industry Advisory Groups**

- Engineering & Industrial Technology
- Science & Health
- Business, Finance & Information Technology
- Arts & Communication
- Human Services

#### <u>Others</u>

Career Street

IU #5

**NWPA Job Connect** 

Northwest PA CareerLink®

NTMA

**ERMP** 

Corry Hi-Ed



## **Role of ECCPA Advisory Groups**

Advise educators and workforce development system on:

- Skills and knowledge needed in the industry
- Making programmatic improvements to meet employers' needs
- Building relationships within the industry
- Connecting students in the workplace



## **Advisory Group Process**

- Ground in CEW Standards and Future Ready PA
- Discuss priority skills, and what's missing in job candidates and employees
- Identify and design age-appropriate career exploration experiences aligned with state standards
- Create new opportunities for career-connected learning to better prepare students for future jobs



## **IMPACT**



### **Schools**

- Aligned courses with five generally accepted pathways, influencing:
  - Course offerings
  - Hiring decisions
  - Student scheduling
  - Parent communications



#### **Schools**

- New resources and partnerships to help meet state requirements
- Stronger relationships between K-12 and postsecondary with employers and WFD organizations
- Opportunities to learn from employers in ways that influence classroom teaching



#### **Students**

- High-quality, age-appropriate career exploration experiences that didn't exist before; greater ability to participate and meet graduation requirements
- New dual enrollment opportunities
- Opportunities to engage with and learn from employers
- More strategic approach to their education
- Job offers!



## **Employers**

- Vehicle to influence education in new ways, and more efficiently than in years past
- Access to pipeline of young talent
- Opportunities to showcase their industry and companies to students and families



#### **General**

- No more finger pointing; collaborative crosssector relationships in place
- Additional resources from "the outside" to support career exploration and pathways development
- Career Street and ECCPA are state and national models





## SELECT EXPERIENCES







## **Educator in the Workplace**





#### Stats:

- 15 daylong tours
- 38 employers engaged
- 180+ educators



## **Elementary**

- Career Café classroom speakers, typically over lunch
- Activity Book Partnership with Edinboro University education students; highlights careers in all pathways; shows diversity



## Elementary Career Café









### 32-Page Activity Book for Grades 2 & 3







3,000 Distributed in 2020/21 Academic Year



## Middle & High

#### Pathway Info Sessions



https://bit.ly/PathwayInfoSess

#### **Employer Showcases**



https://youtu.be/M\_WTBWGVLrl

#### Virtual Career Interviews



https://youtu.be/gB4tw1jzwlo

#### **Multi-District Industry** Club

(Soft skills, college tours, company tours, job shadows & 40-hour internship)



Dahlkemper Landscape **Architects & Contractors** 





Community Access Media



Hair Therapy



**Curtze Food Service** 



Hansen's Errand Service (Transportation Partner)



Industrial Sales & Mfg



Co. DA's Office

## Additional High School Experiences



- Skilled Trades Project
- Quality Assurance (Dual Enrollment) Program (GECAC & Edinboro)
- Dual Enrollment focus to increase student options and participation
- Profile of a Graduate (with NC3T)
- Healthcare and BFIT Career Ladders
- Skilled Trades & Manufacturing articles: <a href="https://www.erietogether.org/news">https://www.erietogether.org/news</a>





## SELECT INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

#### Worksite Tour

CEW Standards:	13.1.11 A, B, C, E, F, H, 12.2.11.C	
Recommended length:	1.5-2 hours, defer to host employer	
Recommended frequency:	Five times per year; one for each career pathway	
Recommended grade levels:	9-11 (could be modified slightly for grades 6-8)	
Recommended Student		
Preparation/Follow-Up (in addition	Revisit personal "Academic Career Plan"	
to evidence/artifacts teachers	Nevisit personal Academic Career Fidit	
require):		
	Prior to tour, preparation may include:	
	<ul> <li>In-class review of five state-designated career pathways</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Review personal interest &amp; skill sets</li> </ul>	
	Research company to be toured	
	<ul> <li>Compose three questions about the company or the</li> </ul>	
	careers therein to ask while touring	
	During Tour:	
	Observe what company does	
	Observe various employees	
	Consider whether this type of work environment and	
	careers offered are of interest	
	Actively engage in conversation/Q & A with host	
	Ask questions	
	After Tour:	
	Write thank you note to host	
	Complete artifact per teacher direction	
	Consider next steps with career of interest	
	D	
Employer Preparation/Remarks:	Prior to Tour:	
	Communicate Entrance & Parking instructions	
	Communicate dress/attire expectations	
	Communicate what to expect from tour environment	
	(Safety considerations, sound levels, etc.)	
	During Tour:	
	Consider "wow" factor – students like to see, touch or      Consider "wow" factor – students like to see, touch or	
	taste. Check with teacher prior to providing refreshments.	
	Orient for bathrooms	
	Make proper Introductions	

#### **Experience Templates**

Grade 9-11 Worksite Tour Future Ready PA Strand: Career Awareness and Preparation

2

	Share what company does, and ideal employee traits,	
	which could include:	
	- On Time	
	- Drug free	
	- Responsible	
	- Team player	
	- Respectful	
	- Etc.	
	Help connect what teachers teach in the classroom to	
	technical skills needed on the job	
	Consider asking employees to comment during the tour:	
	- Education	
	- Skill set commonly needed to perform job well	
	- What to expect in the job	
	- What they like about the job	
	- Etc.	
	After Tour:	
	Provide feedback to educator	
	Provide feedback to Career Street	
Educator Preparation/Remarks:	Before Tour:	
	Obtain proper permission from Administration for tour	
	Obtain all permission slips	
	Touch base with host for tour specifics regarding size of	
	group and necessary dress and preparation	
	Notify media, <u>if permitted by employer and school</u>	
	Research company with students	
	Discuss career options and education needs	
	During Tour:	
	Monitor Class	
	Take pictures, if allowed	
	Encourage questions and interaction	
	After Tour:	
	Write a "thank you" note to host	
	Encourage students to write "thank you" notes	
	Provide feedback to Career Street	
	Create assignment to be utilized for an artifact	

#### **CAREER STREET ROADMAP**

#### Young Female Machinist Tells her Career Story

Thompson's Trades. Throughout the of my machining career is primary products are highly first year we couldn't do doing hands on work with specialized pumps for much hands-on work due the CNC mill. I am able to to damaged equipment chemical fluids, such as from a fire that effected a acid. few shop classes. In 10th hydrochloric acid plating grade I started learning solutions and other various how to run manual mill and the manual lathe, how to building. acids, bases and solvents. Finish Thompson's pumps square a block, drilling, are sold into a wide variety reaming and threading of industries, but some of holes by hand. In 11th the most common are grade is when I started to chemical production and learn about HAAS CNC mill. distribution, metal plating. My shop teachers Mr. steel mills electronics Dudkiewicz and Mr. water and waste-water Wetzel, have helped me treatment." The company become the person I am was founded in 1951 in today Erie. Pennsylvania, We have over 100 employees. I started working at Finish this year. I started working

Even though I was the only woman in the class I didn't there by doing co-on. would go to school for a few hours then go to work the rest of the night. My job title at Finish Thompson is dreams. I have 4 NIMS Certifications that I worked able to watch the process of down! Machinist, I machine parts in the HAAS CNC mill. Ever hard for and I'm also OSHA a block of metal being since I started working at certified. I feel my career machined into a part is really Finish Thompson I've choice is a great cool. machined different parts accomplishment. It was my plastic center nlan since I started in the bearings for Drum Pumps machine trades. The tough to stainless steel Drive times pushed me towards Hubs. I can be working on plastic parts one day and my dreams, and I never working with metal parts gave up. If you put in hard the next. I started high work, dedication, and do school in 2017. I joined the what you want to do once you graduate high school you'll go far. The best part

see a huge piece of metal change into a part that could be used for a car, nlane snaceshin or even a Some challenges I've

faced have been trying to sometimes making the part correctly can be challenging I'm still new at working in the field and I don't have as much strength as the other do. I don't let that stop me. The qualities that are the only female in a shop. important for someone to hold my position would be communication, teamwork, let the guys put me down, I being attentive to detail, through the learning at a somewhat fast having a job right out of frustration, mistakes with pace, flexibility, listening, high school is really cool!! If bad parts and followed my being hands-on, good math someone offers you a job in skills, and creativity. Being your career don't turn it





high school. Being 18 and



"Career Street is a program of Erie Together that networks employer and educator for the purpose of providing students with quality career exploration experiences. For more information, check out our website at www.CareerStreetErie.Org\*

Find your career color Red-Arts and Communication

Blue - Engineering and Industrial Technology

165 "CSCI" articles currently on site: organized by career cluster



#### A look inside careers in the Coast Guard

you have?

company you work for? U.S. Coast Guard Sector

What is the size of this company?

The Coast Guard as an organization has approximately 42,000 people. Sector Buffalo, which has responsibility for Lake Frie Lake Ontario and a portion of the St. Lawrence Seaway, has approximately

1.200 active duty, reserve, and civilian members. How long have you been with this company?

I have been in the Coast Guard for a total of 27 years. I have worked at Sector Buffalo for a little over a year.

What is your job title? Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Buffalo Describe your day to day job/work related tasks and activities

lead the men and women of Sector Buffalo in keeping the waters of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario safe, secure, and free of pollution. Each day we: rescue hoaters in distress inspect commercials vessels to make sure they can safely operate on the water in order to carry goods and people

patrol ports, harbors, and waterways to prevent or disrupt criminal activity like terrorist attacks or crossborder carriage of illicit cargos or people respond to marine accidents and oil spills on the

What are the best things about your career? The best thing about my career in the Coast Guard is the opportunity to serve my

a meaningful way. Whether it be rescuing a boater in distress or preventing damage to the environment, in the course of my job. I get to positively impact people's lives, which I find very rewarding. What are the challenges faced

in your career? There are many challenges associated with being in the military. For example, we move often and we could be called away from our families for long periods of time. There are also the challenges that come along with being a woman in a male-dominated organization. Figuring out how to navigate these challenges

has definitely made me a better leader and a stronger What is your educational

I have a B.S. in Marine and Environmental Sciences from

the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and a M.S. in Civil and Environmental University Is this the career you chose initially, or have there been changes in your career

choices?What led to those I joined the Coast Guard straight out of high school when I was 18 years old, so this career field is really all I

What has led you to your current career? Growing up, I always knew that I wanted to help people and protect the environment particularly the marine environment, so the Coast Guard seemed like a logical

choice for me.

What qualities are important for you to hold the position websites, bios, and articles The Sector Commander written about the organization or interviewers. Sometimes I role requires a leader with excellent internersonal skills as will listen to podcasts on much of the job revolves subjects that I think will come around working with people up in the interview. I will then whether it be other government gather a list of questions that may be asked, write out my agencies or the Sector's crew, A Sector Commander should also answers, and practice delivering those answers succinctly. This be an effective public speaker

What would people be surprise to know about your career? Most people are surprised to learn that I am only the second African American female to reach the rank of Captain in the Coast Guard and I begin preparing for an interview by learning everything the first to command a Coast

strategy has worked well for

and an excellent communicator.

He or she should be a fair-minded

individual who is able to make

time-sensitive decisions with the

How do you prepare for an

interview (if not in a position

there is to know about the

hest available information.

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Red - Arts and Communication Find your career color

Pursic - Susiness Source and Information Technolog

Blue - Engineering and Industrial Technology

Black - Carner Ties

#### CAREER STREET ROADMAP



#### Passion for Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Lead to a Career in Management Consulting

The other thing that's been

One of the "perks" of

What is the name of your company?

Clearsulting What does this company do?

Clearsulting is management consulting firm that launched in 2015. As a management consulting firm, we provide expertise to our clients (companies and organizations) to help them improve their operations. Clearsulting specializes in finance effectiveness and performance management, helping our clients solve their most complex business problems

What is the size of this company?

Our company employs approximately 200 people, thinking and solving complex

I have been an employee over seven months now

"Analyst" in the management consultant division of our company What is the nature of your

position at your organization? I provide project support for our clients to help them address their specific finance and

activities.

Clearsulting client that is a large hospital system where I essentially work as a project manager, I help update policies and processes. lead meetings, gather and followup on action items, and work with outside vendors who have the technology needed to address our client's objectives. I regularly meet with the health system's leadership to understand

Clearsulting can continue to help and provide updates to the leadership team regarding the current projects we have

What is your educational background?

and we support clients across the United States and beyond.

How long have you been with this company?

with Clearsulting for a little

What is your job title? My official job title is

operations-related issues Describe your day-to-day job/work related tasks and

I am currently working with a

upcoming priorities and where great for me is that because I am interacting with the client's leadership team and other key organizational stakeholders. I am growing my professional

network that I'll have throughout my career.

graduated from What are the challenges Mercyhurst Preparatory faced in your career? School and then attended John Carroll University where consulting is getting to travel to other places for client I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Exercise Science and a visits. Unfortunately, due to minor in Chemistry. My goal the pandemic, we haven't was to attend medical school been able to travel like we to become a physician. I was used to. Since I joined accepted into medical school. Clearsulting during the height but during my first semester of the pandemic, I have not realized it wasn't my calling, been able to visit clients on so I made the decision to location and I work mostly change direction. Because I remote. I look forward to the enjoy strategic and critical future when we're able to

went on to work

drive change.

about your career?

Clearsulting where I could

draw on the skills I gained

through my MBA and my

passion to solve problems and

What are the best things

There are so many things

love about my career, but if I

have to narrow it down there

are a couple that rise to the top.

First, coming in as an analyst

(the lowest level in the

consulting world), I was afraid I

wouldn't get much client

interaction and would only be

doing work behind the scenes. I

couldn't have been more

wrong. From day one I have

been interacting with the client,

leading meetings, and helping

to develop solutions to their

problems. It's a very satisfying

feeling being able to contribute

and seeing first- hand how our

problems, I decided to pursue What qualities are important a Master's in Business for you to hold the position Administration which was a you have? much better fit for me. One of the most important finished my MBA in 2021 and

qualities to be a consultant is the ability to think critically Every client is different, and you have to understand and take those differences into account when helping each address their needs. Another key quality is the ability to be flexible. Deadlines approach quickly, and when issues arise on a project, you have to be flexible and work through those issues to make the deadline



Tristan Perry

Clearsulting

What would people be surprised to know about you or your career?

I think most people would he surprised about the worklife balance I have as a consultant. When people think of consulting, they often think of 60 to 80-hour work weeks hurn out and minimal family time. One of the reasons I chose Clearsulting is because I knew how much they value work-life balance, and I am so grateful to have time outside of work to spend with friends and family. Even though I started on the path to become a physician. I couldn't be happier with my decision to leave, pursue my and become a





management consultant

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at www.CareerStreetErie.Org

Find your career color THE COLOR-CODED PATHWAYS ARE:

assistance is benefiting the Purple - Business, finance and Information Technology

Blue - Engineering and Industrial Technology Orange – Human Services

Black - Career Tips

### SCIENCE AND HEALTH Do you enjoy biology, chemistry, physics or psychology? Are you interested in cutting-edge technology, researching and soling complex problems, diagnosping and healing people.

you interested in cutting-edge technology, researching and solving complex problems, diagnosing and healing people, or working with plants, animals or other natural resources? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, this pathway may be for you!

Career Cluster Areas Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Health Science Scientific Research/Engineering

For additional information related to these Career Clusters, visit https://www.pacareerzone.org/clusters

#### Northwest PA

(Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Venango and Warren counties)

Select High Priority Jobs, Educational Attainment & Average Entry-Level Wages (2021)

#### **Associate Degree**

Dental Hygienists*	Diagnostic Medical
\$53,770	Sonographers*
Dietetic Technicians*	
\$20,980	Respiratory Therapists
	\$45,250

#### **Graduate Degree**

	-			
Nurse Practitioners*	Family & General		Post-	Secondary
\$78,520	Practitioners*	<b>A</b>	<b>Nursing Assistants</b>	Licensed Practical
Veterinarians*	\$113,890		\$24,790	& Licensed
\$65,930	Physical/Occupational		Dental Assistants*	Vocational Nurses
	Therapists*		\$29,280	\$33,850
	\$64,360/\$62,470			EMTs & Paramedics
	1			\$23,440
				1

#### Short- or Moderate-Term OJT

		Dacifeloi	Degree
	Veterinary Assistants &	Registered Nurses	Dietitians &
	Laboratory Animal	\$46,530	Nutritionists*
Farmworkers & Laborers*	Caretakers*	Geoscientists*	\$40,720
\$19,300	\$20,620 Pharmacy Technicians*	\$57,360	Environmental Scientists
			& Specialists*
\$2	\$23,290		\$46,460

\* Not on NWPA High Priority Occupations List, but identified as statewide need on the PA In-Demand Occupations List (PA IDDL)

For a list of Top 50 Employers by county, visit: http://bit.ly/Top50Emp





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#### SCIENCE AND HEALTH PATHWAY

This Pathway involves the life, physical and behavioral sciences. In addition, it involves and planning, managing and producing of therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health information and biochemistry research and development. Many of the careers involved with the food, fiber, environmental and natural resource systems fall under this pathway.

Are you interested in	Are you able to	Do you enjoy
Healthcare environment	Pay attention to detail	Helping people
Science and medicine	Use a computer and technology	Caring for sick animals
Medical research	Work in a lab or medical facility	Working outdoors with wildlife
Food production	Apply scientific theory to real problems	Working on cutting edge research
Environment and conservation	Work outdoors	Working on a team
Pharmacy	Collect and analyze data from experiments	Making a contribution to society
Animals	Care for people in need	Working with numbers
Physical therapy	Work with animals	Developing conclusions from dat
Sports and fitness		
Information systems		
Radiology		

If you answered "yes" to many of these questions, you might consider a future in one of the occupations listed on the front of this flyer, or below.

#### **Additional PA In-Demand Occupations**

Long-Term OJT / Post-Secondary / Associate Degree	Bachelor or Advanced Degree
Environ. Science & Protection Techs	Chemical Engineers
Phlebotomist	Medical & Health Services Managers
Medical Assistants	Medical Scientists
Medical Records & Health Info. Techs	Nurse Anesthetists
Occupational Therapy Assistants	Physician Assistants
Physical Therapist Assistants	Psychiatrists
Surgical Technologists	Survey Researchers
And more	And more
	Post-Secondary / Associate Degree  Environ. Science & Protection Techs Philobotomist Medical Assistants Medical Records & Health Info. Techs Occupational Therapy Assistants Physical Therapist Assistants Surgical Technologists

#### **Education/Training Resources**

Adult Basic Education

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5:

https://www.iu5.org/community-services/adult-education

Post-Secondary Education / Training Options
PA Eligible Training Provider List: http://bit.ly/PACLETPL
PA Colleges & Universities: http://bit.ly/PACollegeandUniv

To access the full *High Priority Occupations List for NWPA* and the *PAIDOL* list, visit: https://www.nwpajobconnect.org/resources/high-priority-occupations-hpo

To contact Northwest PA CareerLink®, call 1-844-333-5248.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program EO Officer: 814-333-1286

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https://www.careerstreeterie.org/resources/pathways-flyers



## **QUESTIONS?**

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