

# 10 TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR YOU

*How does a person know what career to work toward? There is no perfect answer, but the following 10 tips will get you off to a good start.*

- 1 Get to know yourself** – Complete more than one self-assessment test.
- 2 Identify your strengths and weaknesses** – What do you do well and what do you not do well?
- 3 Develop an inventory of careers** – Write down some careers that might interest you.
- 4 Research different careers** – Talk to others and use the Internet.
- 5 Write the pros and cons** – List positives and negatives about the careers that interest you.
- 6 Network** – Discuss your ideas with others.
- 7 Talk with people who work in your area of interest** – Family and friends are great resources.
- 8 Find a mentor** – Find someone with whom you can discuss your career selection.
- 9 Experiment** – Take a related class or part-time job.
- 10 Don't give up** – "If there is a will, there is a way."

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN

# ENGINEERING AND DESIGN INDUSTRY SECTOR



STATE CENTER CONSORTIUM

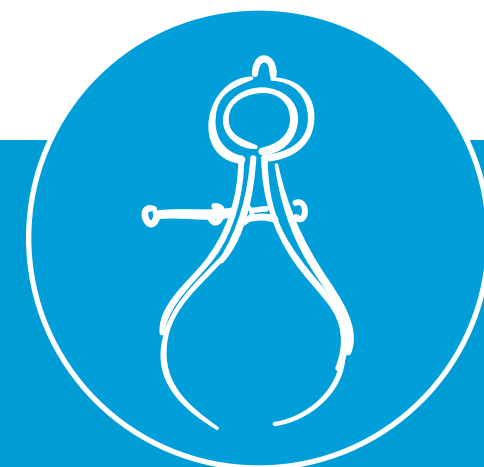
*A Partnership for Success*

390 W. Fir Ave, Suite 300, Bldg B  
Clovis, CA 93611  
Phone: (559) 324-6410 Fax: (559) 324-6489  
[www.statecenter.com](http://www.statecenter.com)

This material is made pursuant to agreement number 07-0170a of the CTE Community Collaborative Supplemental grant. Funds were administered by the Governor's CTE Initiative SB70/SB 1133 through the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Activity that is the subject of this document was supported in whole or part by the U.S. Department of Education. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and no official endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education should be inferred.

## Plan For Success





The Engineering and Design Industry Sector is ideal for students who have a strong understanding of mathematics and a creative drive to design new ideas. If you are passionate about the environment and have innovative ideas for renewable energy or water treatment, or you have the next hit attraction for an amusement park in your head waiting to be designed, this sector could be your path to success. Student attributes for success in this sector include strong problem solving and analytical skills, the ability to work as part of a team, and a strong work ethic.

The **California Career Resource Network**, [www.californiacareers.info](http://www.californiacareers.info), is an online resource for exploring careers, personal interests, and reality games.

Go to the **California Career Zone**, [www.CACareerzone.org](http://www.CACareerzone.org). The *Interest Profiler*, under *Assess Yourself*, identifies personal interests leading to further investigation. We recommend that you spend a few minutes completing these assessments.

# Career Pathways



## Architectural and Structural Engineering Pathway

The Architectural and Structural Engineering Pathway provides learning opportunities for students interested in the safety, cost, design, and construction of a building. Work elements of this pathway often involves working in conjunction with an architect. Students interested in this pathway should possess artistic ability and strong mathematical skills.

### CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Engineering Aides
- Drafters/Designers
- Structural Engineers
- Industrial Designers/ Estimators
- Instructors
- Architects
- Surveyors
- Civil Engineers



## Computer Hardware, Electrical, and Networking Engineering Pathway

Careers in this pathway are highly technical and require continuing education to stay abreast of constantly changing technology. Students are introduced to the design, manufacturing, assembly, programming, and maintenance of computers and networking systems essential to telecommunications and information

technology. These pathway careers will continue to be in high demand as technological systems become increasingly intricate. Students interested in this pathway should have a desire to understand, diagnose, and create within a technological framework.

### CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Computer Engineers
- Electrical Engineers
- Computer Repair
- Computer Networking Technicians
- Telecommunication Engineers
- Network Administrators
- Electricians



## Environmental and Natural Science Engineering Pathway

If your heart is set on protecting the environment, this may be your pathway. Improving and protecting our air, land and water is the focus of this career area. Students will be involved in the design and development of equipment, processes, and systems used to create, monitor, prevent, or correct environmental events and conditions.

### CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Environmental Planners
- Oceanographers
- Hydrographers
- Survey/Mapping Technicians or Engineers
- Environmental, Chemical, and Civil Engineers
- Meteorologist
- Ecologists
- Park Naturalists



## Engineering Design Pathway

If you like explaining ideas in a visual way, the Engineering Design Pathway may be for you. Pathway careers encompass the design and production of visual communications. Visual communication is the conveying of ideas and information in forms that can be seen. Students will learn to plan, prepare, and interpret drawings and models through traditional drafting or computer-aided techniques.

### CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- CAD/CAM Technicians
- Drafters/Designers
- Structural Engineers
- Software Engineers
- Civil Engineers
- Architects



## Engineering Technology Pathway

The Engineering Technology Pathway provides learning opportunities for students interested in preparing for careers in the design, production, and maintenance of mechanical, telecommunications, electrical, electronics, and electromechanical products and systems.

### CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Electricians/Electronics
- Industrial Engineers and Technicians
- Telecommunications Facility Construction/ Maintenance

