

Career Exploration Resources for Parents

What Employers Want:

- Critical thinkers / creative problem solvers
- Effective communicators
- Strong work ethic
- Technical competency/digital agility
- Data/Information driven mind set
- Collaborative skills
- Ability to work in multi-generational settings

Start the Conversation at an Early Age:

- Your child's strengths
- What your child likes to do
- Emphasize looking a person in the eye when you are talking to them
- How to shake hands and what a firm handshake feels like
- Career pathways when the conversation naturally leads you there
- Occupations: parents, parent's friends, relatives
- Explore zoos, nature centers, museums, historical sites, etc., and reflect on what they observed.
- Connect the math, communication, science and technology skills your child is learning to the "real world"
 - The game app on their electronic device
 - Calculate the math needed for a remodeling project, such as replacing carpeting, measurements for placing counter tops with room for the appliances, etc.
 - Write an email to a parent or a relative that is work place worthy, using complete sentences and appropriate punctuation, and does not contain the text message abbreviations, symbols, etc.

Statewide Resources

Missouri Pathways to Prosperity Network: <http://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/career-education/pathways-prosperity>

Missouri Connections: <http://missouriconnections.org> login as guest with county and zipcode

Complete a career interest inventory
Research & explore career options
Find training programs and educational institutions
Develop personal plan of study

Missouri Department of Economic Development: www.missourieconomy.org

Occupational Studies Tab
Identify high demand occupations, salary ranges, qualifications

United State Department of Labor: <https://www.doleta.gov/>

Additional resources on high demand careers, training, etc.

Regional Resources (some of these resources are available statewide)

St. Louis Graduates and Scholarship Central <http://stlouisgraduates.org/>

Scholarship and funding resources

Support for getting ready, getting in and getting through postsecondary education.

STEM Scouts (St. Louis Region): www.stemscouts.org

Boy Scouts of America pilot focused on girls and boys, grades 3- 12, to learn more about STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis <https://www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-gstlouis>

JA's volunteer-delivered, kindergarten through high school programs foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students to dream big and reach their potential.

Diversity Awareness Partnership <http://dapstl.org/explore-program/>

In this program, students learn that their possibilities are endless. They become engaged and excited about the many different careers that are within the field they are exploring. EXPLORE Program partners are enthused to work with the students and want students to make connections for future internship opportunities.

Learning for Life – Real World Career Experiences <http://exploring.learningforlife.org/>

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are at least 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 years of age but not yet 21 years old.

Boy Scouts of America www.bsa-grc.org

Beginning in kindergarten, scouting provides boys opportunities to explore interests and potential career interests through activities and merit badges.

Girl Scouts www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org

Much like its Boy Scout counterpart, Girl Scouting is a leadership building organization.

4-H <http://4h.missouri.edu/programs>

Students participate in hands-on learning activities in the areas of science,, citizenship, and healthy living.

MU College of Engineering K-12 and High School Events <http://engineering.missouri.edu/high-school-summer-camp/>

The College of Engineering hosts many K-12 events including Lego camps, summer and weekend programs on robotics and engineering.

Mizzou MedPrep Explorations <http://medicine.missouri.edu/medprep/>

This is a three week online workshop (including a one day on-campus event) designed to provide an overview of the medical profession.

Mizzou Mini Medical School <http://medicine.missouri.edu/education/summer-mini-med.html>

High school students participate in a week long "med school"

MU Summer and Academic Year Programs <https://musis1.missouri.edu/precollege/>

MU offers summer programs and camps for youth in subjects from A –Art to V-Vet Medicine.

Missouri Science Olympiad www.moscioly.org

Middle school to high school level teams compete in regional, state and national contests. There is an emphasis on problem solving and hands-on, minds-on learning within the science disciplines; students also learn teamwork and cooperative learning.