

Pathways to Professions

Connecting Students to Careers in our Community



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As our students engage in and enjoy their school years, they might not focus on what lies ahead after graduation. Pathways to Professions is a resource that can help guide their decision making and help jump-start the next phase of their lives.

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Through progressive exploration beginning in elementary school and continuing through their high school years, students will learn about career paths that exist in our community directly from the businesses themselves. *Pathways to Professions* not only brings the businesses right into the classroom, but can also bring the students to the businesses.

Pathways to Professions is a combined effort of many community partners in the Pottawatomie County region that are interested in creating a pipeline of talent for our future vitality. The program is a 12-week comprehensive exposure to career opportunities in our own community.

Skilled Workforce is in high demand



WORKFORCE / LABOR AVAILABILITY

72%

of site selectors agreed that workforce/labor availability is the 2nd highest factor in companies' choices about their location.



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A shortage of construction and manufacturing workers is reaching a critical level and has the potential to derail the industries and companies that are part of the new industrial strategies being pursued by countries around the world.

-The State of Site Selection 2024

EXPOSE



Students in the elementary school grades will be exposed to businesses and the tools required to do the jobs within those businesses.

- Posters highlighting careers and equipment/tools used in those careers to post in high traffic areas. Rotated monthly.*
- Classroom Speakers – “A Day in the Worklife”*
- 4th grade opportunity for in-classroom hands-on experience by OG+E*

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EXPLORE



Students in the middle school grades will have the opportunity to explore career opportunities that exist in a variety of local businesses

- *Videos highlighting area businesses that give students a snapshot of what happens inside of the buildings that may be familiar to them*
- *An coordinating informational piece highlighting that company to read over the intercom.*
- *Posters highlighting careers and equipment/tools used in those careers to post in high traffic areas. Rotated monthly.*
- *Classroom Speakers that align with weekly highlighted business*
- *Field Trip opportunities to areas businesses (up to 4x/yr.)*
- *Provide a poster that identifies the skills needed at our local manufacturing companies.*

EXPERIENCE



Students in high school will have the opportunity to experience in greater depth what a day doing a specific job is like for the employee.

- *Field Trip opportunities to areas businesses (up to 4x/yr.)*
- *Job Shadowing*
- *Hands-on Paid Internship Opportunities (up to 240 hrs.) at no cost to the employer through our community partners.*
- *Classroom Speakers that align with weekly highlighted business*
- *Career Success panel discussions and interactive workshops.*
- *Provide a poster that identifies the skills needed at our local manufacturing companies.*



We need **YOUR** partnership to be successful



Your Commitment:

1. Promote Pathways to Professions to your educators and counselors.
2. Select those pieces of the program that supplement the curriculum you already have in your schools.
3. Collaborate with Shawnee Forward to implement the program for best success.
4. Give feedback to us at the end of the program so we can improve and offer the best options for a student's future success.
5. Invest in Shawnee Forward with an annual contribution of \$2,500 to support the program development and implementation.

Our Commitment to You:

1. Provide posters and rotation schedule for your elementary and middle schools.
2. Provide videos and coordinating supplemental information for showing at the middle school(s).
3. Establish an awareness of the skills needed for careers in your industry with educators.
4. Create opportunities for your students to hear from professionals in a variety of careers that exist in our community.
5. Expose students to the path to attain the career options that interest them.
6. Demonstrate to parents that there are quality pathways for our youth to consider and exposure through the program will have a positive effect on their education, employment, and earning outcomes.

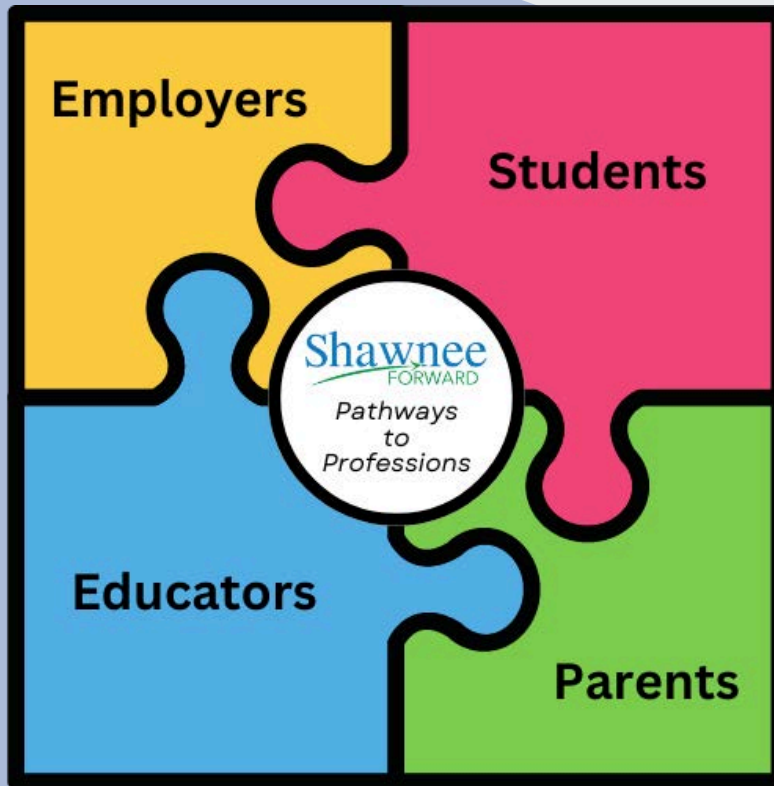
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Pathways to Professions is a Workforce Development Initiative by:

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Our Community Partners in Pathways to Professions



For More information connect with Crystal: ceo@ShawneeForward.com or 405.273.6092