

Jr HS Resources for College & Career Exploration

Hint: When you change this document, [you change it on the Website.](#)

If you are teaching “Real-World” relevance in your lesson plans, you might want to utilize the following resources. Career Readiness Standards have become a vital part of the Middle School curriculum.

HELPING Students to be Realistic

- Unrealistic expectations of most HS students. When asked how much they would make when they graduated in the first year of employment the average answer was \$162,000 a year. They wanted to become professional athletes, professional cheerleaders, and CEOs of companies. All of these have a very limited number of employment opportunities.
- Ask students: (1) What do you like doing? (2) What interests you? (3) What skills can you bring to the economy?
- **COOL ONLINE GAME:** <http://www.texasrealitycheck.com> takes about 14 minutes. Have students open the game and answer the 22 questions. Have them open a spreadsheet at the same time and calculate the costs of the decisions they make. Because of variable costs of living locations and jobs, lifestyle, transportation, etc. they will see what results their income and outgo expenses will generate.

Tools to better understand the job market

- Texas Cares (www.texascaresonline.com) Assessments of interests, Review occupations by industry or career cluster, see descriptions of different occupations
- Reality Check (www.texasrealitycheck.com) Learn costs of lifestyle by metro region, cost of education by metro area, learn earnings for different occupations by metro area
- AutoCoder (<http://autocoder.lmci.state.tx.us:8080/jc/onetmatch>) convert a job title or job description into a real occupational title
- Texas Wages (www.texaswages.com) learn wage ranges for hundreds of occupations by region in TX
- Texas Crews (<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/apps/txcrews>) Learning about earnings and student debt by public college and by student major.

- Order WORKING TEXAS STYLE call 1800-822-7526 then press 0#

MORE RESOURCES

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