



# Academic and Career Plans (ACPs)

## Virginia Career VIEW's Educator and Parent Guide

### How the Virginia Department of Education defines *Academic and Career Plans*:

- ◆ Beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year, all schools shall begin development of a personal Academic and Career Plan for each seventh-grade student with completion by the fall of the student's eighth-grade year.
- ◆ The components of the Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the student's program of study for high school graduation and a postsecondary career pathway based on the student's academic and career interests.
- ◆ The Academic and Career Plan shall be developed in accordance with the guidelines established by the Board of Education and signed by the student, student's parent or guardian, and school official(s) designated by the principal.
- ◆ The Plan shall be included in the student's record and shall be reviewed and updated, if necessary, before the student enters the ninth and eleventh grades.
- ◆ The school shall have met its obligation for parental involvement if it makes good faith effort to notify the parent or guardian of the responsibility for the development and approval of the Plan.
- ◆ Any personal academic and career plans prescribed by local school boards for students in grades 7 through 12 and in effect as of June 30, 2009, are approved to continue without further action by the board.

Virginia Department of Education. [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/academic\\_career\\_plan.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/academic_career_plan.shtml). Accessed 16 August 2010.

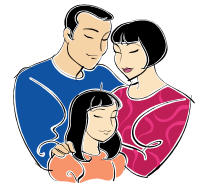
### What this means for educators:

- ◆ *Goal:* to implement a Academic and Career Plan for each student in seventh-grade to be used through middle and high school years.
- ◆ Inform both students and parents of Plan expectations.
- ◆ Involve both students and parents in devising a Plan.
- ◆ Provide students and parents with resources to make informed decisions about careers and interests.



### What this means for parents:

- ◆ This process involves *you, your child, and your child's counselor.*
- ◆ Knowledge of the Academic and Career Plan will make your involvement more hands-on.
- ◆ If you learn about this process now, you will be better prepared when the Academic and Career Plans are implemented in 2011.
- ◆ Encourage your child to pursue career exploration now. An early start will assure informed decisions for you and your child.





# VIRGINIA CAREER VIEW

VITAL INFORMATION FOR EDUCATION AND WORK

For Parents

## We Put it All Together.

Virginia Career VIEW offers resources designed specifically for the needs of middle school students, parents, and educators. Visit [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org) and explore:

- ◆ **Career Search:** Have your child research careers on the Virginia Career VIEW website- information includes: Virginia and national average earnings, tasks and responsibilities, required education, skills, requirements, and related careers.
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *Grades 6-8* then *Career Search*. Research careers by name or career cluster.
- ◆ **School Search:** Explore your child's education options after high school using the Career Search portal. This federally supported search tool lists schools focused on: Career and Technical Education, Associate degree programs, 4-year degree programs, Bachelor's programs, Master's programs and Doctoral programs.
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *Grades 6-8* then *School Search*. Research schools by geographic location or degree level.
- ◆ **Career Puzzles and Activities:** Use these activities to have your child explore his or her skills, future, and career interests. Resources include word puzzles, self-assessments, and career exploration activities. **Over 30 activities!**
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *Grades 6-8* then *Career Puzzles and Activities*. Choose: [I've Got Skills](#), [My Future](#), or [Career Explorer](#).
- ◆ **ACP Toolkit:** Educate yourself and your child about the ACP and how it will affect your child's future.
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *Professionals* then *Toolkits*.
- ◆ **Unusual Occupations:** Not only are these occupations unusual, but they are fun to learn about. Explore this page!
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *Grades 6-8* then *Unusual Occupations*.
- ◆ **Create a Folder:** Save information to your own account by creating a folder. Add worksheets and activities to your folder to work on later.
  - ◆ To use: Go to [www.vacareerview.org](http://www.vacareerview.org), click on *My Folder*, then enter the required information.  
\*Note: Federal law requires children to be at least 13 years old to share personal information.



Animal Behaviorist