Find a program or major that prepares me for my career

During Week 3, students will use a career cluster of choice to identify "meta-majors" on which to focus their program or major exploration that will prepare them for their future career.

Learning Objective: Participants will match their career cluster to a meta major along with exploring other means to discover a program or major that will prepare them for their future.

MCJ Tools: CoTrainingProviders, Soft Skills Assessment, gtPathways

CAM Activity: Participants will reflect on the corresponding meta major to their chosen career cluster along with exploring the COTrainingProviders.org and pathways soft skills assessment and guaranteed pathways program for their career, program name, length, cost, and credential required, and program of choice.

Tips for Success:

- Translating career aspirations into what program or major to take is an inexact science at best. Suggest to students as they look at careers that they always dive into what education and training program, as well as experience, will result in career success.
- The Careers In Colorado tool will help students see careers within an industry that may be a good starting point in that industry even if they can't spend a lot of time on further education
- Encourage participants to download the GT pathways checklist, complete their work and then upload the checklist onto the education section of their profile.
- Encourage participants to log into their My Colorado Journey account to complete their work on CoTrainingProviders so their work will be saved.

What the research says:

Finding the right fit is important for students, especially those from underrepresented groups. Studies show that more than half of high-achieving students from low-income families end up at a college beneath their academic level, a phenomenon called *undermatching*. More troubling, those who are under-matched are less likely to graduate on time. By exploring multiple pathways and options, we hope students land at an institution where they'll thrive.

Explore my future earnings for my program of study

During Week 3, students will use the return on investment (RIO) tool to find out more about the value of their future program of study.

Learning Objective: Participants will investigate their return on investment for their program of study.

MCJ Tools: Return on Investment (ROI) tool.

CAM Activity: Participants will use the RIO tool to reflect on which program at Colorado public colleges and universities has the best average earnings over time.

Tips for Success:

- Some students may require one-on-one support understanding the ROI graph.
- Encourage participants to log into their My Colorado Journey account to complete their work on RIO tool so their work will be saved.

WEEK 3:
Learn about transferring my credits

During Week 3, students will learn about the process of transferring credits towards a degree.

Learning Objective: Participants will investigate the process of transferring credits.

MCJ Tools: GT Pathways Checklist

CAM Activity: Participants will access programs that ensure that credits obtained at a two-year school will transfer along with learning about other ways that credit toward a credential can be obtained. Students reflect on transferring between two-year and four-year colleges, and prior learning programs.

Tips for Success:

- Encourage participants to download the GT pathways checklist, complete their work and then upload the checklist onto the education section of their profile.

Confirm my education or training choices

During Week 3, students will make a preliminary commitment to the education or training they will need for career success.

Learning Objective: In a wrap-up of work to date, participants will confirm their current thinking on the education or training they will need for their future career choice.

MCJ Tools: CareerOneStop.

CAM Activity: Participants will declare what level of education they may pursue based on current thinking.

Tips for Success:

- If career and program exploration and selection work has been done recently with students, this goal may be de-selected for completion.
- Encourage students to envision several possibilities in postsecondary options

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***What the research says*:**

Finding the right fit is important for students, especially those from underrepresented groups. Studies show that more than half of high-achieving students from low-income families end up at a college beneath their academic level, a phenomenon called *undermatching*. More troubling, those who are under-matched are less likely to graduate on time. By exploring multiple pathways and options, we hope students land at an institution where they'll thrive.