

# **Government and Public Administration Career Cluster**

## ***What is the Government and Public Administration Career Cluster?***

Although virtually every occupation can be found within government, the Government and Public Administration career cluster focuses on those careers that are unique to government and not contained in another career cluster. The federal government defends us from foreign aggression; represents American interests abroad; deliberates, passes and enforces laws; and administers many different programs. State and local governments pass laws or ordinances and provide vital services to constituents. Occupations that carry out these activities fall into 7 pathways: Governance, National Security, Foreign Service, Planning, Revenue and Taxation, Regulation, and Public Management and Administration.

## ***What skills are taught in the Government and Public Administration Career Cluster? What are the program objectives?***

Students will learn the structures and processes associated with each of the seven pathways listed above, along with related issues of ethics and current events. In addition to these academic competencies, competency in the following areas of employability will be expected of students completing the program: decision-making and problem solving; self-management; communication skills; ability to work with others; information use – research; analysis and technology; safety, and personal career development.

## ***What will the program prepare the students to do?***

Students who complete the program will have the necessary set of skills to work at a beginning level in a wide range of government sectors. In addition, students will have the information and skills necessary to pursue post-secondary education. College majors connected to this program include: Political Science, Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Accounting, International Business, Foreign Languages, Pre-Law, and Urban Planning, among others.

## ***Is the program connected to the government?***

Yes. There is an emphasis on interaction with the community through site visits, guest speakers and projects that have real-life application. An off-site, independent real world learning experience is an essential component of the program.

## ***What is the employment outlook for Government and Public Administration?***

Because of the essential nature of the occupations in this cluster to our society, there will always be employment opportunities available. However, the need for particular positions will vary by current federal and/or state Administration and Congress, depending on their public policy priorities. In general, state and local government employment is projected to increase by approximately 10% nationally, and at a slightly higher rate in NH, over the next decade, while federal government employment is expected to increase by approximately 16%. Employment growth will stem from a rising demand for services at the state and local levels, as states and localities assume ever-

increasing responsibility for some services previously provided by the federal government, and from population growth.

***Is there a relationship with post-secondary institutions?***

Yes. Articulation agreements exist between Regional Career and Technical Centers and campuses of the NH Community Technical College System. These agreements provide opportunities for advanced placement and/or college credit. Some schools also participate in Project Running Start, which allows current high school students to enroll in a NH Community Technical College course while completing their high school program, at reduced tuition rates. In addition, students may choose to complete general college requirements through technical college evening and/or summer courses prior to HS graduation.

High schools also participate in local advisory committees and/or associations with post-secondary and industry participants. Most of these groups have affiliations with state and national professional organizations.

***For More Information***