



University of Vermont

COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS | MAR 14, 2026

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Dudley H. Davis Center 4th floor

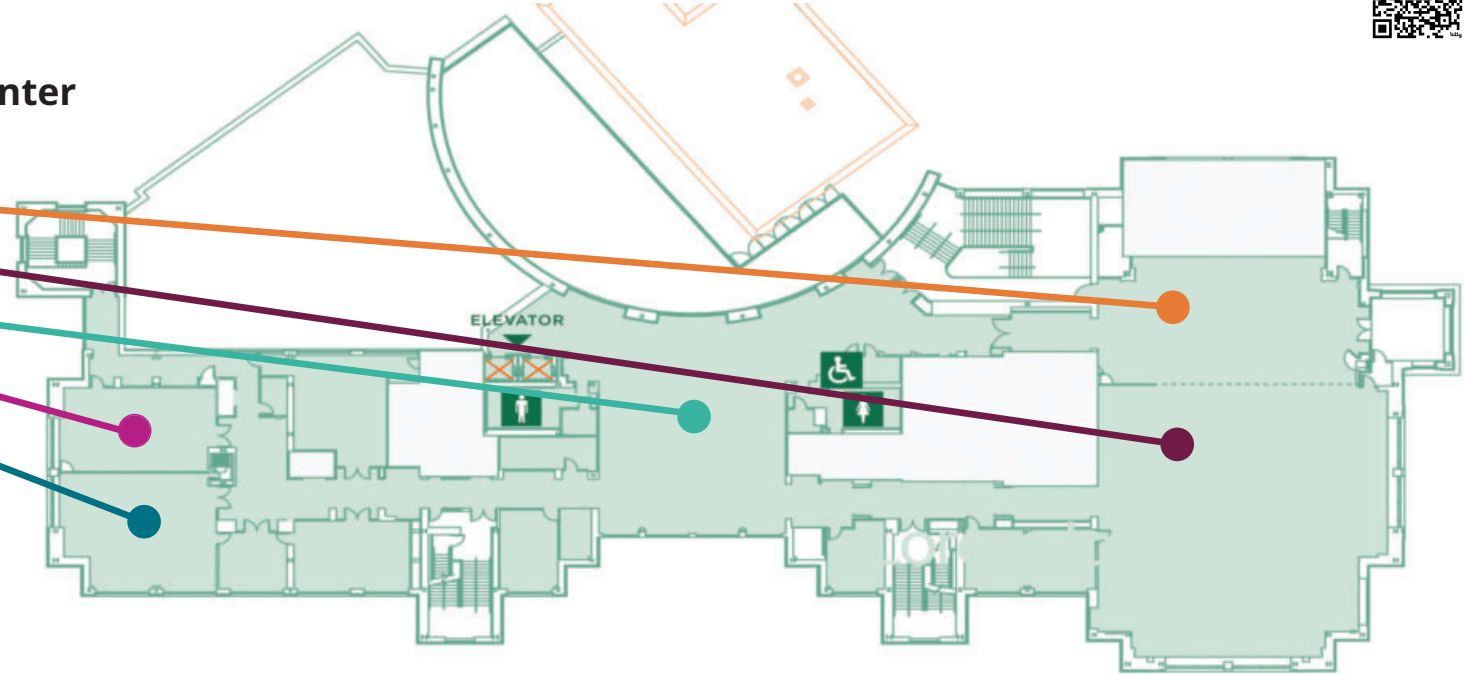
Sugar Maple Ballroom

Silver Maple Ballroom

Livak Fireplace Lounge

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Frank Livak Ballroom



WiFi Access

UVM Guest network: Select "Other guest" on login page, enter mobile number, and use code you will receive via text to access network

RESOURCE FAIR

1:00-2:00

Registration & Exhibitors

Livak Fireplace Lounge

WELCOME

2:00-2:15

Opening Remarks

Silver Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 1

2:25-3:10

The College Search: Finding the Right Fit

Silver Maple Ballroom

Navigating the College Search for Students Who Learn Differently

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Strategies for the SAT & ACT

Frank Livak Ballroom

Supporting Your Teen's Career Search

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 2

3:20-4:05

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Managing Education & Training Costs

Silver Maple Ballroom

MyFutureVT: Your Guide to Success After High School

Frank Livak Ballroom

Navigating the Admissions Process

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 3

4:15-5:00

I Wish I Knew That! Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate

Frank Livak Ballroom

Scholarships: Free Money!

Silver Maple Ballroom

Taking a Gap Year: Build an Intentional Path to Your Future

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Writing the Admissions Essay

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS

The College Search: Finding the Right Fit

Presenter: Matt “Beagle” Bourgault, VSAC Talent Search Director

Audience: Best for 9th–11th grade students alone or with their parents/guardians (less appropriate for parents/guardians alone)

Want to continue your education after high school, but unsure how to choose a school or training program? This interactive workshop will help you consider what you want from your post-high school experience, share anecdotes from a recent grad, and provide strategies and tools to start narrowing down the search to institutions that meet your needs.

Navigating the College Search for Students who Learn Differently

Presenter: Sydney Ruff, Senior Director of Admissions, Landmark College

Audience: Best for 9th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

This workshop will give neurodiverse students and their families the tools you need to determine fit and prepare for the transition to education after high school. We will discuss what to consider, the questions to ask, the legal landscape, and the wide range of accommodations, supports, and programs that exist in post-secondary education today.

Strategies for the SAT & ACT

Presenter: Matthew Shagam, Tutor

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students

Want to make yourself a stronger candidate for college admissions and merit-based financial aid by earning a high score? Get “best practice” strategies and free test-prep resources from a professional test prep tutor.

Supporting Your Teen’s Career Search

Presenter: Kathi Terami, Executive Director, Careers CLiC

Audience: Best for the parents/guardians of 9th–12th grade students

How can you help your child figure out what they want to do, without telling them what to do? This workshop will cover what your high schooler needs from you in their career search, and how to help them identify and explore their career interests.

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Presenters: Zach Johnston, Project Coordinator, VTSU Apprenticeship Programs & Christopher Laflam, VT Dept. of Labor Apprenticeships

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Enrolling in a registered apprenticeship program is a smart investment in your career. It provides hands-on training, mentorship, and a path to a rewarding career with long-term stability and growth opportunities. Come learn about the opportunities that exist in Vermont, and how to pursue a registered apprenticeship to take the first step toward your dream career.

Managing Education & Training Costs

Presenter: Kate Rowland, VSAC Talent Search Outreach Counselor

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Find out how families cover the cost of education and training after high school. We'll explain the types of financial aid available (grants, scholarships, loans); the basics of financial aid applications; and ways to compare costs before you apply.

I Wish I Knew That! Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate

Presenter: Amy Dodge, Post-Secondary Programs Coordinator, VT Agency of Education

Audience: Best for 9th–11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Participants will learn about the Flexible Pathways opportunities available to students and how participating in one or more of these programs in high school can help you get a jump-start on your future. Please note that presenter will be joining virtually.

Navigating the Admissions Process

Presenters: Anna Dechert, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, Dartmouth College & Paul Winters, Associate Director of Admissions, Vermont State University

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Overwhelmed by the college admissions process? Hear directly from college admissions counselors about the steps involved in applying, what they look for in students, and resources that can help you make the most of the process.

MyFutureVT: Your Guide to Success After High School

Presenter: Tom Cheney, Executive Director, Advance Vermont

Audience: Best for 9th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

Planning for life after high school can feel overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be! Come explore MyFutureVT, a free resource for career exploration, education options, and financial planning. Plus, learn about the Vermont Employment Pathfinder, a tool that will help you connect the dots between your skills/interests and education/job opportunities. Gain the confidence and tools to confidently chart your path to success!

Scholarships: Free Money!

Presenter: Jimmy Clark, VSAC GEAR UP Outreach Counselor

Audience: Best for 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Learn how to find and apply for local, state, and national scholarships.

Taking a Gap Year: How to Build an Intentional Path to Your Future

Presenter: Julia Rogers, President Emeritus, Gap Year Association

Audience: Best for 10th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

An intentional gap year offers time to explore interests, build real-world skills, and learn beyond the formal classroom. A well-planned year can strengthen confidence and self-knowledge while helping students stay engaged and future-ready, no matter what comes next. This workshop explores the range of opportunities, offers guidance on college deferment or reapplication, shares strategies for financing gap time, and shows how to design a fun and meaningful year.

Writing the Admissions Essay

Presenter: Carrie Pratt, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, University of Vermont

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

In a world filled with AI, the admissions essay remains the best way to bring your unique voice to your college applications – this session will provide you with strategies to approach this important piece of writing and a better understanding of how it will be reviewed.