

I Wish I Knew That!

Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate

College and Career Pathways 2026

Introductions

Amy Dodge

Post-Secondary Programs Coordinator

Vermont Agency of Education

Student Pathways Division

Agenda

What are Flexible
Pathways

Flexible Pathways
Toolkit

College in High School

- Dual Enrollment
- Fast Forward
- Early College

Careers in High School

- CTE
- Work Based Learning

Expanded Learning in High School

- Virtual Blended Learning
- Independent Studies

Flexible Pathways are supported by Legislation

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graph TD; A[Act 77: The Flexible Pathways Initiative] --> B[Personalized Learning 7-12]; A --> C[Flexible Pathways]; B <--> C;
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Act 77: The Flexible Pathways Initiative

Personalized Learning (7-12)

- Personalized learning planning process
- Discover student interests, abilities, etc.
- Personalized Learning Plan
- Career development and post-secondary planning

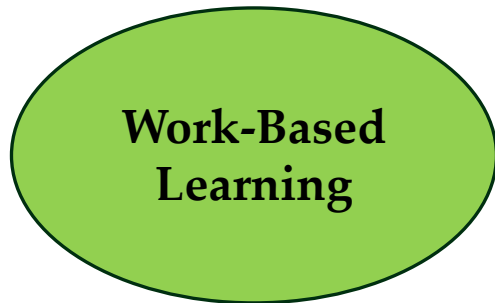
Flexible Pathways

- Increase engagement and encourage postsecondary continuation
- Can relate to career and academic interests
- Multiple types of flexible pathways

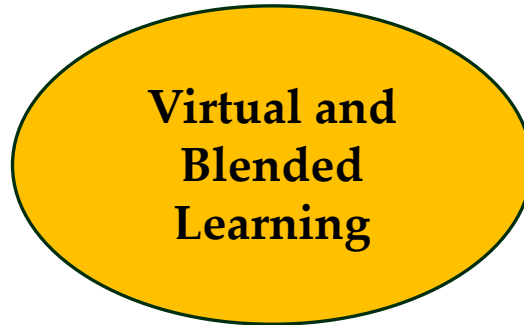
Flexible Pathways Programs

If you want to explore...

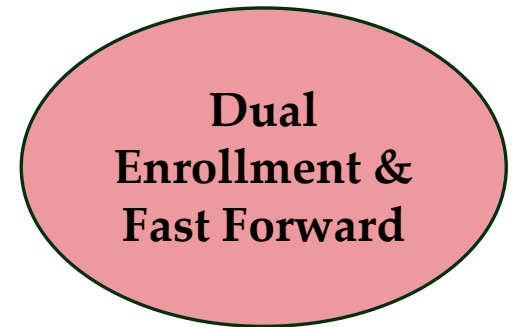
...careers in high school



...expanded learning in high school



...college in high school



Flexible Pathways Toolkit

These resources have been developed for schools, supervisory unions, and school districts to use with students, colleagues, families, and community to support the development, expansion, and implementation of flexible pathway opportunities.

- **Dual Enrollment and Early College Checklists**
- **Student Considerations Guides and Tools**
- **Universal Samples and Talking Points For:**
 - ❖ **Career and Technical Education**
 - ❖ **Dual Enrollment**
 - ❖ **Early College**
 - ❖ **Virtual Blended Learning**
 - ❖ **Work Based Learning**

Past 1: College in High School

- Why College in High School?
- Dual Enrollment
- Early College
- Fast Forward



Preparing for post-secondary course work

- Flexible Pathways Toolkit
 - ✓ Talking points, checklists
- Introduction to College and Careers
- VTVLC Introduction to Online Learning

Why College in High School

- Explore the world of college prior to high school graduation
- Receive both high school and college credit for taking a college level course
- Get a jumpstart on earning postsecondary credentials
- Offset future college expenses
- Ease the transition to life after high school

Dual Enrollment
Fast Forward
Early College

Overview of Dual Enrollment

Who: All eligible 11th & 12th grade Vermont students

When: Upon completion of 10th grade, before graduation

What: Enroll in two college courses tuition free

Where: 8 Partnering Vermont colleges & universities

How: Dual Enrollment System, communication with HS counselor & PLP

Overview: Early College



Who: Eligible 12th grade Vermont students



When: Application and approval process during 11th grade year



What: Full year of college in place of their HS senior year



Where: Partnering postsecondary institutions




How: Connect with your HS counselor, apply in Junior year



Vermont's Early College Program



Watch on  YouTube

Overview Fast Forward Program

Who: Students enrolled in certain Career Technical Education programs

When: 11th & 12th graders (some 10th grade students) – during the school year

What: Earn college credits through your CTE program

Where: Vermont State University or Community College of Vermont

How: Dual Enrollment System, communication with your Regional CTE Center & PLP

Pre-Tech Programs – Grades 9 or 10

- Pre-Tech Exploratory programs are full or half day programs offered at many CTE centers that give students the chance to explore all CTE programs at a CTE center, while doing project-based learning to earn English Language Arts, Math, and Social Studies credit (and sometimes also science)
- Pre-Tech Foundations courses are a single course offered at many CTE centers focused on a specific program offered at a CTE center to give students exposure to that career path.

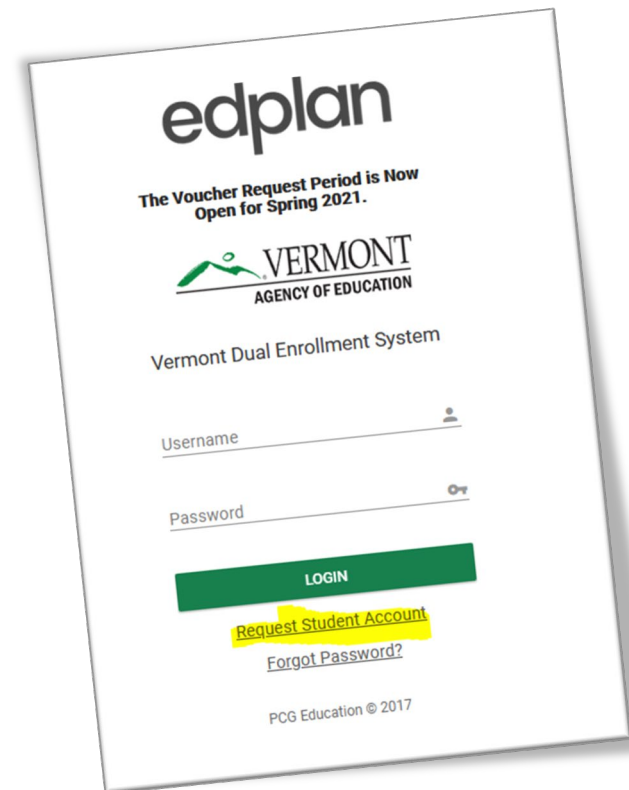


Dual Enrollment Site

Brief overview of the system

- ☐ Request DE System account
- ☐ HS Coordinator* approves account request
- ☐ Complete profile & household info
- ☐ Find a course using the college's course catalog
- ☐ Request course(s) in the DE System
- ☐ Upon approval from HS Coordinator register at the college using the voucher number

* Home Study works with AOE directly



Timeline: College in High School Offerings

Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th grade
Dual Enrollment	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) Eligible for 2 Dual Enrollment courses – beginning summer before 11th grade	
Early College	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) ICC, VTVLC	College/career exploration through personal learning plans (PLPs) Dual Enrollment Course Application & Approval Process	Eligible for Early College
Fast Forward				Eligible for Fast Forward courses at participating CTE Programs		
Pre-tech programs			Pre-tech programs in partnership with regional CTE Center School directed college/career counseling			
Intro to College & Careers (CCV) VTVLC	<u>Eligible for CCV Introduction to College & Careers Course</u> <u>VTVLC</u> – Introduction to Online Learning					

Questions?

Part 2: Careers in High School

- Why Careers in High School
- Timeline
- Career Technical Education (CTE)
- Work-Based Learning (WBL)



Why Careers in High School

- Gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience you need to prepare for high skill, high demand, high wage careers
- Participate in programs that meet the ever-changing needs of learners and employers
- Earn a post-secondary industry recognized credential.
- Participate in work-based learning experiences in real, virtual, online, or simulated work environments that expose learners to postsecondary options

*Career &
Technical
Education
And
Work-Based
Learning*

Overview: Career Technical Education



Who: 11th and 12th grade Vermont student
(Potentially Grade 10 if space is available)

When: Apply during spring of 10th or 11th grade

What: Students gain skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience needed to prepare for high skill, high demand, high wage careers

Where: Provided statewide through 15 service regions

How: Meet the admission criteria set forth in the admissions policies of the technical center

CTE Programs

- ❖ Advanced Manufacturing
- ❖ Automotive, Diesel Technology, Auto-body
- ❖ Building Trades
- ❖ Business
- ❖ Computer Systems, Networking, and IT
- ❖ Cosmetology
- ❖ Culinary Arts
- ❖ Digital and Visual Arts
- ❖ Diversified Agriculture
- ❖ Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing
- ❖ Engineering
- ❖ Forestry and Natural Resources
- ❖ Health Sciences and Dental Assisting
- ❖ Heavy Equipment
- ❖ Human Services, Childhood, and Teacher Education
- ❖ Law Enforcement
- ❖ Welding

Overview: Work-Based Learning

- **Who:** Any eligible Vermont high school student
- **When:** Dependent upon Child Labor Laws, students need to be 14 years of age and up for most experiences
- **What:** Work related experiences that enhance academic and career goals
- **Where:** Professional working environments, businesses within the local community
- **How:** Connect with your school's Work-Based Learning Coordinator



Timeline: Career in High School Offerings

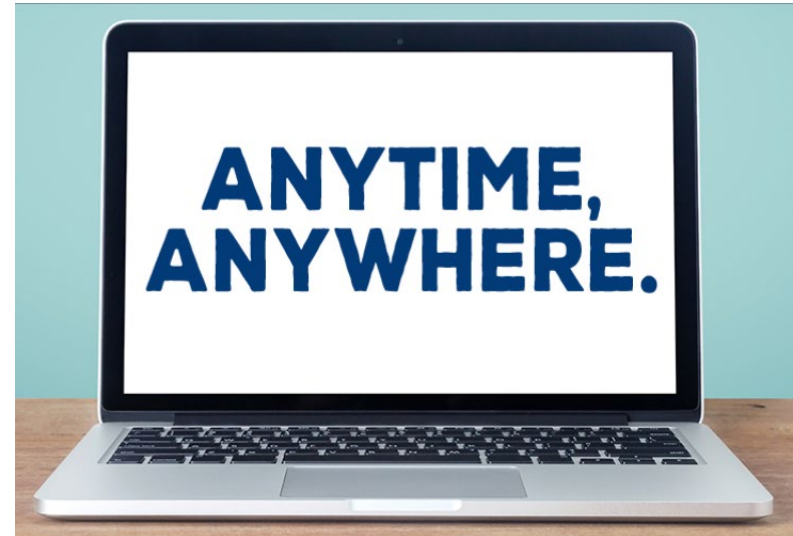
	7th – 9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
CTE	<p>College/career exploration through personalized learning plans</p> <p>Pre-tech programs in partnership with regional CTE Center and school directed college / career counseling</p>	<p>Pre-tech programs in partnership with regional CTE Center and school directed college / career counseling</p> <p>Apply in spring for 11th grade CTE participation</p>	<p>Participate in half day or full day program</p> <p>Apply in spring for 12th grade CTE participation</p>	<p>Participate in half day or full day program</p>
Work-Based Learning	<p>College/career exploration through personalized learning plans</p>	<p>Career exploration and preparation through job shadows, internships, paid work experiences, Transition services.</p>	<p>Career exploration and preparation through job shadows, internships, paid work experiences, Transition services.</p> <p>Cooperative Education through CTE programs</p>	<p>Career exploration and preparation through job shadows, internships, paid work experiences, Transition services.</p> <p>Apprenticeship and Cooperative Education through CTE programs</p>

Questions?

Part 3: Expanded Learning in High School

Why Expanded Learning in High School?

- Virtual and Blended Learning
 - (VTVLC is used here as an example)
- Expanded Learning Opportunities
 - (Independent Studies as an example)



Why Expanded Learning in High School

- Range of online learning opportunities for students
- Allows student choice in time, place, and pace of learning
- Employs a variety of digital tools, content, and supports

Virtual and
Blended Learning
and
ELO's

Overview VTVLC

- **Who:** Students in grades 9-12 (some offerings available for earlier grades)
- **When:** Fall and spring semesters, 16-18 weeks each
- **What:** Over 100 online courses that can be used to meet high school graduation requirements
- **Where:** Online through any Vermont high school
- **How:** Connect with your counselor to apply



Timeline: Expanded Learning in High School

	7th – 12th Grade
Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC)	Full time programs Traditional programs Home Study programs Flex Programs
Expanded Learning Opportunities	As determined by the local school, including such opportunities as independents studies.

Questions?

Resources

- [Flexible Pathways Toolkit](#)
- [Post-Secondary Program Options for High School](#)
- [Fast Forward Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Dual Enrollment and Fast Forward Talking Points for High School Students](#)
- [Thriving in Vermont's Early College Program - A Support Guide](#)
- [Early College Financial Aid](#)
- [ECP Entry Requirements by Participating Colleges](#)
- [Dual Enrollment and Early College: Implications for Special Education](#)
- [Vermont Dual Enrollment Program](#)
- [Vermont Early College Program](#)
- [Career Technical Education](#)
- [Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative](#)

Questions?

Amy Dodge

Amy.dodge@vermont.gov