

**Suggestions for Educators – Career Exploration**

1. **We recommend reviewing** [**https://www.minnstate.edu/AFNRcareers**](https://www.minnstate.edu/AFNRcareers) **prior to distributing the assignment**. Even better would be to briefly explore the websites WITH your class. The website is an extremely valuable resource not only for this assignment, but additional information about Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources related career and college pathways, career exploration videos, and numerous other educator resources.
2. **Additional resources can be found on the MN State Agricultural Centers of Excellence website** [www.centerofagriculture.org](http://www.centerofagriculture.org) **and** [www.agcentric.org](http://www.agcentric.org). Questions on the additional assignment sheet will require students to navigate to the Minnesota State Agricultural Centers of Excellence websites and AFNR employer sites.
3. **The assignment is dually designed to be distributed electronically with working hyperlinks, or as a traditional in-person worksheet that can be filled out by hand**. The assignment is intended to be completed in one school day – one class period, or a small homework assignment. This assignment also has a survey we would like the students to fill out at the end. This survey is designed to help us measure our efforts.
4. **We recommend this assignment for students Grades 8-12 who are in career planning class or in the process of deciding what to do after high school**. The questions are not designed with right or wrong answers in mind, but instead to 1) provoke more in-depth thought about their post high school futures, and 2) to guide them toward examples of resources that are available to them, like college and scholarship information. More than simple exploration, this assignment will hopefully be relevant and practical to students.
5. **In addition to the career exploration assignment sheet there is an Advanced Learning sheet.** This assignment is designed to extend learning and dive into more features on the website as well as visit the Center of Excellence websites. This assignment will have students try out the following features:

**What Can I Do with this Major?**

**Reality Check** tool

**Career Videos**

*Advanced learning will also dive into:*

* 1. **CONNECTION TO MINNESOTA STATE** by identifying colleges and degrees.
  2. **HOW CAN I PAY FOR MY EDUCATION? by i**dentifying scholarship links.
  3. **REAL-LIFE EMPLOYERS** by identifying current job openings.

1. **Would you like to explore a partnership with industry or collegiate professionals from the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources pathway?** The success of the Agricultural Centers of Excellence is based upon college and industry partnerships. These strong relationships often result in fruitful and meaningful connections between local colleges and industry with area high schools. Those connections can result in sharing of resources, industry tours, work-based learning opportunities, classroom presentations, and professional development. Please contact [Judy](https://agcentric.org/who-we-are/) or [Natalie](https://www.centerofagriculture.org/contact/contact) if you would like to know more about ways we can help you and your students.
2. **Let us teach for a day!** Please contact one of us if you would be interested in letting us visit your classroom (virtually or in-person) for a more interactive and in-depth discussion of college and career pathways in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. These presentations are no-cost and vary in length to accommodate class periods of varying lengths.
3. **Connect with other Minnesota State Centers of Excellence!** Our partner Centers cover the pathways of Advanced Manufacturing, Transportation, Energy, Engineering, Healthcare, and Information Technology. You can explore more about them [here](mailto:https://minnstate.edu/coe/index.html).
4. **Contact us!** We would love to know more about who is using these resources and what else we can do for you. If you have feedback for this assignment or questions, please email [Judy](https://agcentric.org/who-we-are/) or [Natalie](https://www.centerofagriculture.org/contact/contact).

Thank you for all you do! Best of luck!