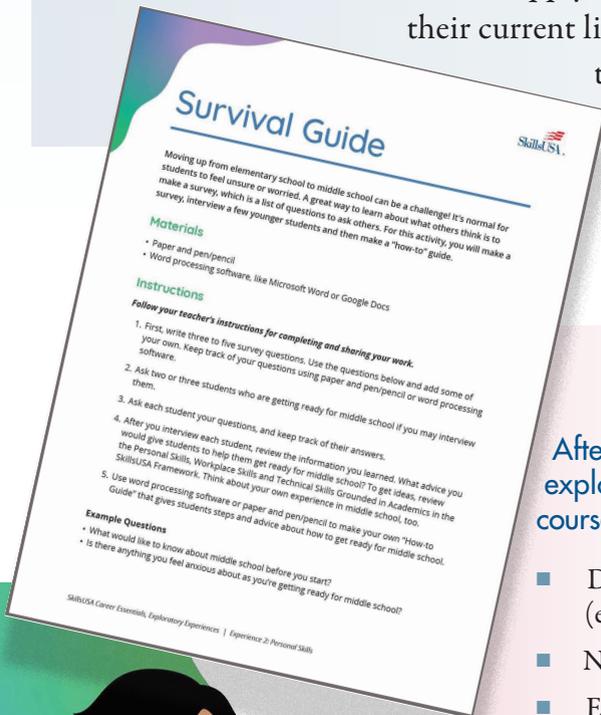


# Exploratory Course

The *SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences* exploratory course engages learners ages 12-14 (grades 6-9) to achieve four outcomes through project-based, blended learning, all focused around the 17 Essential Elements of the SkillsUSA Framework. Students apply career readiness content to their current life events and think ahead to their future careers.



After completing the exploratory Experiences course, learners will be able to...

- Define the 17 SkillsUSA Framework Essential Elements (employability skills)
- Narrow their career field interests/focus as a result of career exploration
- Establish plans and adjust to changes to successfully transition to high school
- Implement skills to develop high-quality personal and professional relationships
- Earn a badge following successful completion of each Experience unit
- Complete the Exploratory course and post-assessment at a level of 80% and earn the Exploratory micro-credential, indicating their achievement of the objectives and goals of the course

As a function of using the exploratory Experience curriculum, teachers will be able to...

- Facilitate students in achieving the four learner outcomes
- Implement project-based learning successfully in their classroom
- Connect students with industry partners



## The exploratory course includes

nearly **70 learning events** divided into **four units**. There are approximately **25 hours** of designed lesson activities, and approximately **25 hours** of suggested expansion activities, making the course customizable over a quarter, semester, school year, or a variety of other time frames. Learning events include **four unit kickoff lessons**, **more than 20 e-learning modules** and more than **40 project activities**.

### Experience 1: Getting Ready for Your Career Experience Map

*(Shown here is a sample of an exploratory set, Experience curriculum map)*

-  Career Interest Survey
-  What is the SkillsUSA Framework?
-  The SkillsUSA Framework
-  Survival Guide
-  Career Profiles
-  What Are Your Personal Strengths?
-  Using the Framework



 Activity  Online Module  Overview

## Student resources

- The 16 Career Clusters of the National Career Clusters® Framework lead students through e-learning modules
- Feedback and interaction provided through e-learning modules
- Instruction sheets guide students in completing each project activity
- All resources available on computers, tablets and smartphones, including through an app
- E-badges earned for successful unit completion

## Teacher resources

- Access to learner view on the learning management system
- Unit instructor guides for successful project-based learning implementation
- Online reporting features to monitor student progress
- All instructions for students to follow
- Step-by-step navigation support in the learning management system
- Through a systematic approach that includes face-to-face as well as virtual training opportunities, teachers develop Career Essentials implementation plans that allow them to feel both confident and competent in their delivery

**“We believe in the SkillsUSA Career Essentials curriculum and credential as a much-needed academic resource to strengthen CTE to define, implement and measure career readiness beyond just technical skills.**

**When someone asks what we’re doing to help close America’s skills gap, sponsoring Career Essentials is one thing we can point to.**”

— Al Smith

Group Vice President and  
Chief Social Innovation Officer,  
Toyota Motor North America



For full details on the SkillsUSA *Career Essentials* suite of products including purchasing information, please visit:  
**[www.careeressentials.org](http://www.careeressentials.org)**

*SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Experiences* meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.