

## Web Resources

Career Cruising  
[www.careerecruising.com](http://www.careerecruising.com)

KeyTrain  
[www.keytrain.com](http://www.keytrain.com)

Illinois Career Resource Network  
[www.ilworkinfo.com/icrn.htm](http://www.ilworkinfo.com/icrn.htm)

Career Click (Illinois)  
[www.workforceinfo.state.il.us](http://www.workforceinfo.state.il.us)

Illinois Department of Employment Security  
[www.ides.state.il.us](http://www.ides.state.il.us)

Bureau of Labor Statistics  
[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

Occupational Outlook Handbook  
[www.bls.gov/oco/](http://www.bls.gov/oco/)

Today's Military  
[www.todaysmilitary.com/careers](http://www.todaysmilitary.com/careers)

Free Application for Federal Student Aid  
[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Finance 101  
[www.isac.org](http://www.isac.org)

Career Services Center  
Waubonsee Community College  
[www.waubonsee.edu](http://www.waubonsee.edu)

Career Counseling  
Kishwaukee College  
[www.kishwaukeecollege.edu](http://www.kishwaukeecollege.edu)

Pathways to Prosperity  
Harvard Graduate School of Education  
[www.valees.org/cte\\_resources.html](http://www.valees.org/cte_resources.html)

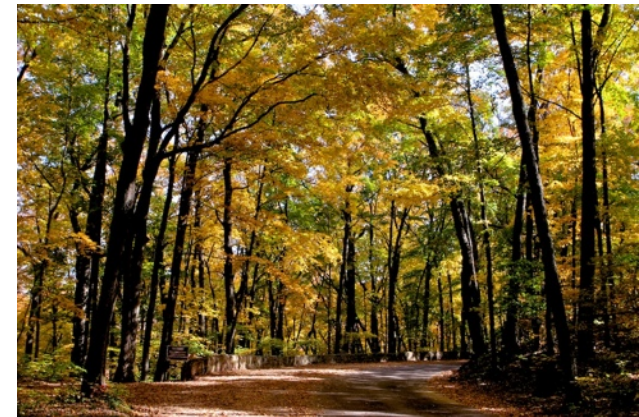
Choosing a College Major: Daniel Pink  
[youtube.com](http://youtube.com)

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# CAREER PATHWAYS

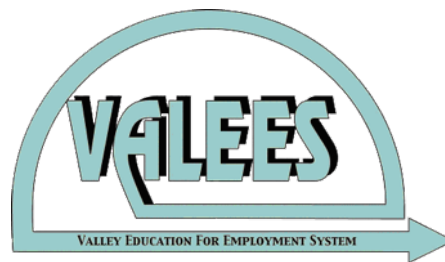
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## Tips for Parents



As a parent, you play the major role in helping your son or daughter move toward a successful career.

Believe it or not, you are the most powerful influence in his or her life.



Valley Education for Employment System

Rt. 47 at Waubonsee Drive

Building A

Sugar Grove, IL 60554

630-466-5736

[www.valees.org](http://www.valees.org)

# Essential Questions

**Who am I?**

**Where do I want to go? How might I get there?**

## ENCOURAGE...

your teen to stay in school. More jobs today require technical skills. A high school diploma is a must for a basic job while training or college is needed for more skilled careers. School is a teen's work. Attendance is important.

## EXPLORE...

with your teen his or her personal abilities, strengths, likes, and dislikes. The more teens know about themselves, the easier it will be for them to identify careers that may be appealing to them.

## ASSIST...

your son or daughter in achieving the basic skills needed in the workplace. Help your teen learn how to problem solve, communicate, work on a team, have a good attitude, and be on time. Other basic skills such as writing, reading, and mathematics are essential for success in a career.

## SUGGEST...

that your teen consider a nontraditional career. It's alright for men to pursue a nursing degree or women to work in a technical field. It takes extra commitment to cross gender lines, but there are rewards.

## DISCUSS...

lifelong learning with your son or daughter. It's understandable for teens to be confused about their future or career choices. What's not helpful is to avoid dealing with the subject altogether.

## DEFINE...

success and what it means to be successful. Success can be measured in many ways – personal fulfillment, community and school involvement, financial independence, career achievement, and more. Help your son or daughter define what success means personally to them and how they are going to achieve it.

**ENJOY** your teens! Assist them in their quest for a fulfilling career. Remind them of their positive traits and assure them that you are on their side. Be a confidante and positive role model.

## TALK...

with your daughter or son about taking part in a work-based learning experience or working a part-time job. Hands-on training will help your teen gain valuable work experience and the basic job skills needed for future education and careers.

## COORDINATE...

home learning with school learning. Become a partner with your local school district. Teens, parents, and school staff can team up to explore many career options.

## CREATE...

opportunities to experience on-the-job experiences such as job shadowing or internships to help your son or daughter gain a better understanding of what work in a particular business is really like.

## PREPARE...

your teen to accept responsibility. Young people need to learn that they are needed, that what they do is important, and that people rely on them to get things done.

## SUPPORT...

the positive choices your teens make. Some of the decisions they make will not be ones you would have chosen for them. As parents, we can't live their lives for them. Be persistent in presenting opportunities. Keep your attitude positive.

## EMPHASIZE...

to your teen the importance of technology and the importance of working well with others. A key element in the careers of tomorrow is the ability to work comfortably with technology and working with people.

## MOTIVATE...

your son or daughter to get on with it. Help them put together a resume. Contact colleges or universities and apply for financial aid. Gather as much information as possible on post high school alternatives.



**There are many career pathways...**

- **Community College**
- **Technical Education**
- **College or University**
- **Apprenticeships**
- **Military**
- **Trade Schools**