

Focus on Freshmen
Career Choices Implementation Institute
Session Descriptions

Session One

Understanding the Pedagogy of *Career Choices*: Why It Works

Career Choices is unique among curricula. We know that better than anyone, and we want to save you from “reinventing the wheel.” Throughout this institute we’ll review what we’ve discovered in our 20+ years’ experience with thousands of schools and educators, sharing what works and, just as important, what doesn’t. We’ll jump right into the text starting at Chapter One and give you first-hand experience with all the components so you understand how they can fit together in your classroom.

Session Two

Gearing Up: Maximizing Your Resources as You Launch Your Course

We’ll start the session with a tour of The Teachers’ Lounge and the comprehensive *Instructor’s Guide*, two resources you’ll want to be familiar with as you work on your lesson planning and pacing, and as you do your daily prep throughout the school year. We’ll also move into Chapter Two, Your Personal Profile, giving you experience with critical content in the text while demonstrating integration of elements that can enrich students’ understanding—the Chapter Introduction Videos hosted by Olympic Gold Medalist Dain Blanton and the *Possibilities* anthology.

Session Three

Making the Most of the Budget Exercise

Hold onto your hats, ladies and gentlemen! This is the activity where you’ll see students’ attitudes and perceptions of education turn on a dime. We’ll spend this hour exploring the concepts of this critical project through the text and the other resources that can enrich the experience, including the optional *Lifestyle Math* workbook.

Session Four

What Do I Want? The Systematic Process in Chapters 5, 6, & 7 for Answering One of Life’s Most Important Questions

Myriad surveys and resources will come into play as we get hands-on with the balance of Section Two of *Career Choices*. Building on the foundation laid in the previous sessions, you’ll learn how to promote both critical and strategic thinking as you help students envision and articulate a lifestyle of their choosing, outline the work conditions that will match their personality and their goals, and explore the potential industries and careers that will provide a life of satisfaction and accomplishment. And you’ll have another chance to learn by doing as teams demonstrate sample lessons.

Session Five

How Do I Get It? Bringing it All Together in Section Three

Get ready for more excitement! This is where the hard work in the first two sections starts to pay off and your students catch glimpses of how they can use the information they've gathered to build a very personal 10-year plan. In this session, we'll diagram goals and objectives so we make sure they are measurable, discuss strategies for keeping students from becoming derailed as they pursue their dreams, and learn what it takes to generate the positive attitudes critical for success. And we'll continue with teams demonstrating sample lessons.

Session Six

The 10-year Plan: The Key to Graduation (for Both High School and College)

Welcome to Chapter Twelve, where the entire process culminates with a written 10-year plan. The breadth of the content scope becomes apparent as everything your students have learned and experienced throughout the course comes into play. We'll explore strategies for using Chapter Twelve as your course final and discuss how you can institutionalize students' 10-year education and career plans in your school.

Session Seven

Ready, Set, Action! Outlining Your Implementation Goals and Next Steps

Let's talk tech for a little bit as we look at the online enhancements for *Career Choices*: CareerChoices.com, LifestyleMath.com, and My10yearPlan.com®. Then you're ready! Using all the resources and information covered in the previous sessions, you'll outline a personal action plan so you are ready for action as soon as you return to school.