

**Focus on Freshmen
Career Choices Implementation Strand
Session Descriptions**

Session One

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

Career Choices is unique among curriculums. We know that better than anyone, and **we want to save you from “reinventing the wheel.”** Throughout this workshop strand 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 quick tour of both the online Teachers’ Lounge and the comprehensive *Instructor’s Guide*, two resources that put help at your fingertips. We’ll also move into Chapter Two, Your Personal Profile, giving you an in-depth experience with the text’s content while demonstrating integration using the *Possibilities* anthology to enrich students’ understanding of the concepts presented.

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. We’ll touch on both the optional *Lifestyle Math* workbook and LifestyleMath.com, the online correction key.

Session Four

What Do I Want? How *Career Choices* Systematizes the Process for Answering One of Life’s Most Important Questions

Myriad surveys and resources will come into play as we get hands-on again to explore more critical activities in this section of the text. As students learn to identify and articulate what they want, they are gathering the building blocks needed for a quantitative 10-year plan. You’ll learn how to promote both critical and strategic thinking as your students envision 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.

Session Five **How Do I Get It?**

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.

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 this chapter as your course final. We'll also demonstrate the use of My10yearPlan Advisory and the NEW My10yearPlan Interactive, and we'll use those online tools to launch a discussion of how you can institutionalize students' 10-year education and career plans in your school.

Session Seven **Customizing Your Lesson Plans using Microsoft Excel**

You're ready! Using all the resources and information covered in the previous sessions, we'll walk you through the process for customizing your plans for teaching the course. Bring your laptop if you want to work on your session-by-session Excel spreadsheet, but don't worry. You won't have to start from scratch. You'll have a variety of pre-formatted plans you can choose to customize to meet your own course parameters.