



MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

Vocational Technical Education Framework

Standardized Strand 4

Employability

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Massachusetts Department of Education
Career/Vocational Technical Education Unit
address 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148
telephone 781-338-3910
internet www.doe.mass.edu/cte/
email careervoctech@doe.mass.edu

Strand 4: Employability Knowledge and Skills

4.A Develop employability skills to secure and keep employment in chosen field.

- 4.A.01a Evaluate industries, organizations, and careers based on multiple sources of research and information.
- 4.A.02a Assess interest areas to determine potential career pathways, including career ladders.
- 4.A.03a Develop a career plan with alternatives.
- 4.A.04a Complete job applications and related employment documents (e.g. W-4).
- 4.A.05a Create professional cover letters, resumes, and portfolios in a variety of formats (print and electronic).
- 4.A.06a Apply job search skills to seek, evaluate, apply for, and accept employment.
- 4.A.07a Demonstrate good interviewing skills.
- 4.A.08a Demonstrate employability skills needed to get and keep a job.
- 4.A.09a Assess alternative occupational choices (e.g. working conditions, benefits, and opportunities to change).

Performance Examples:

1. Research positions open within a variety of companies and compare/contrast their descriptions, duties, and expectations.
2. Prepare responses to standard interview questions.
3. Participate in a mock-interview with industry professionals.

4.B Communicate in multiple modes to address needs within the career and technical field.

- 4.B.01a Apply strategies to enhance effectiveness of all types of communications in the workplace.
- 4.B.02a Apply reading skills and strategies to work-related documents.
- 4.B.03a Locate information from books, journals, magazines, and the Internet.
- 4.B.04a Apply basic writing skills to work-related communication.
- 4.B.05a Write work-related materials.
- 4.B.06a Explain information presented graphically.
- 4.B.07a Use writing/publishing/presentation applications.
- 4.B.08a Apply basic skills for work-related oral communication.
- 4.B.09a Explain proper telephone etiquette and skills.
- 4.B.10a Lead formal and informal group discussions.
- 4.B.11a Demonstrate effective negotiation and conflict management.
- 4.B.12a Apply active listening skills to obtain and clarify information.
- 4.B.13a Communicate with others in a diverse workforce.

Performance Examples:

1. Review a professional journal; choose one article to summarize.
2. Call the publisher for free products in journal.
3. Develop an oral presentation regarding an article in a journal.
4. Summarize trends presented in a graph.

4.C Solve problems using critical thinking.

- 4.C.01a Demonstrate skills used to define and analyze a given problem.

- 4.C.02a Explain the importance and dynamics of individual and teamwork approaches of problem solving.
- 4.C.03a Describe methods of researching and validating reliable information relevant to the problem.
- 4.C.04a Explain strategies used to formulate ideas, proposals and solutions to problems.
- 4.C.05a Select potential solutions based on reasoned criteria.
- 4.C.06a Implement and evaluate solution(s).

4.D Demonstrate positive work behaviors.

- 4.D.01a Identify time management and task prioritization skills.
- 4.D.02a Explain the importance of following workplace etiquette/protocol.
- 4.D.03a Demonstrate willingness to learn and further develop skills.
- 4.D.04a Demonstrate self-management skills.
- 4.D.05a List causes of stress and effective stress management techniques.
- 4.D.06a Describe the importance of having a positive attitude and techniques that boost morale.
- 4.D.07a Show initiative by coming up with unique solutions and taking on extra responsibilities.
- 4.D.08a Explain the importance of setting goals and demonstrate the ability to set, reach, and evaluate goals.
- 4.D.09a Explain the importance of taking pride in work accomplished and extrinsic and intrinsic motivators that can be used to increase pride.
- 4.D.10a Value the importance of professionalism, including reliability, honesty, responsibility, and ethics.
- 4.D.11a Demonstrate a respect for diversity and its benefit to the workplace.