

What's New for Choices Explorer?

We love to hear how we can improve! Every year, we add new features and enhancements in response to your feedback. We're excited to let you know what we've done recently to improve your Choices Explorer experience.

Fall 2008

Choices Explorer Guideways – Our Guideways provide an accessible and comprehensive roadmap for getting the most out of Choices Explorer. Two brand-new Choices Explorer Guideways take students through our career exploration features and tools in a logical order. The Guideways track students' progress through the completion of each step and then direct them to the next one.

You'll find the Guideways on the front page of Choices Explorer.

There are two Guideways: the Get Started Guideway, which introduces students to Choices Explorer and the concept of planning for the future; and the Moving Forward Guideway, which guides them through the next steps as they move forward with their career exploration.

Course Plan Builder Enhancements – You can now “lock” a student's four-year plan for improved reporting and tracking. We've enhanced our reporting features so you can monitor students' progress with greater accuracy.

Additionally, you can use our expanded Notes field for better communication. And students now have the ability to create course plans for 7th and 8th grade, to add more depth to their plans.

Portfolio Merging – Ever noticed that some students create more than one portfolio? That can make it hard to monitor their progress. You can now merge multiple portfolios through the Professional Tools.

Students can also merge their portfolios by clicking on the Merge Portfolios link on the main Portfolio page.

Professional Account: Administrator Privileges – We've increased the security of site administration. All Professional Accounts can still access the Reporter, Reviewer and Tracker features in order to monitor student progress. However, only those with Administrator privileges can perform administrative tasks for site management. These administrative tasks include customizing course plans, managing passwords, creating Professional Accounts or upgrading individual portfolios to Professional Accounts.

To upgrade your Professional Account to include Administrator privileges, you'll need an Administrator Code. You can find the Administrator Code in your Welcome Letter. After you upgrade using your Administrator Code, you will not need to use the code again.

New Content – Choices Explorer's articles are updated on a regular basis in response to developing career trends and student requests.

Here's a sample of the new articles we've added recently, or are currently creating:

Career Information articles

- Independent Movie Producer
- Usability Engineer

Many careers change quickly in response to new technology or shifting demographics. We've also rewritten over 30 career articles in order to reflect the latest developments.

Majors articles

- Nanotechnology Degrees
- Wind Energy Programs

We've rewritten over 25 majors articles to showcase current education options

Labour Market Information articles

- Eco-Fashion: Designing an Environmentally Friendly Future
- The Shortage of Heavy Equipment Operators
- Independent Bookstores Struggle for Long Shelf Life
- The Shortage of Native Physicians
- More Parent Consultants Help Families Through Changing Times
- Carbon Traders in Demand as Climate Becomes Hot Topic
- Clients Fighting for Family Lawyers
- Get Energized: New Opportunities in Alternative Power
- Careers in Wind Energy
- Video Journalism Opens up Opportunities for Reporters
- Use Your Head for the Game: Behind the Scenes Sports Careers
- Extreme Careers: Creating a Career in Extreme Sports
- Choosing a Medical Specialty
- The Growing Shortage of Endocrinologists
- Hydrologists Rise to Environmental Challenges
- Young Politicians Offer Fresh Thinking
- Rural Life Offers Plenty for Veterinarians
- Environmental Educator: A Career for a Changing World

Volunteer and Recreation articles

- Blood Donor Clinic Volunteer
- Engineers Without Borders
- Volunteer Repairperson
- Warehouse Volunteer
- Personal Care Volunteer
- Firefighter Volunteer
- Jigsaw Puzzle Enthusiast
- Dirt Bike Riding
- Bike Stunt Riding

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