

Governor's STEM Academy Brief



Office of Career and Technical Education Services

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The purpose of the monthly brief is to provide information, resources, and a networking vehicle to support the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Academies in Virginia.

GOVERNOR'S STEM ACADEMIES SPOTLIGHT

Eight teams from Virginia high schools competed in the final match of the 2014 Governor's Cybersecurity Cup Challenge, a statewide competition that offers students hands-on learning experience in cyber defense. At the final event of the challenge held at George Mason University on April 12, 2014, team "Lil B's Penguinados" from the Marshall High School Governor's STEM Academy, Fairfax County Public Schools, outmatched seven other teams to be crowned the 2014 Virginia Governor's Cybersecurity Cup Challenge Champion. Team "Purple Squirrels" and Team "The AF," also from the Marshall High School Governor's STEM Academy, won second and third place honors, respectively.

CAREER LINKS—HUMAN SERVICES

- The [Human Services](#) cluster prepares individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care, and consumer services.
- Visit [CareerOneStop](#) for a selection of videos related to the Human Services Cluster.
- To introduce students to a variety of social work specialties and issues, see [All Psychology Careers](#), [International Social Work](#), and [Needed: Health Professionals to Treat the Aging](#).
- Students contemplating a career in child or family counseling may profit from Pew Research Center's reports on [Social & Demographic Trends](#) and the latest research from [Child Trends](#).
- [About Social Workers](#) is a career resource from the National Association of Social Workers.
- Go to Career Overview to find Careers, Jobs, and Employment Information for [Dietitians and Nutritionists](#), [Recreational Therapy](#), [Psychology](#), [Recreation and Fitness](#), and [Social Work](#).
- For the latest information about a career as a mental health counselor or a marriage and family therapist, consult the [Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014/15](#) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- Access the [AmeriCorps](#) site for training and employment opportunities within schools, public agencies, community groups, and other service organizations.
- Visit [Job Monkey](#) and the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) to explore career opportunities for cosmetologists and nail technicians.
- [How To Be a Funeral Director](#) includes videos and information about a career in mortuary science.

- Find resources on careers in credit counseling at [Investopedia](#).

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- [Federal grants](#) are available in the area of human services, with a searchable database of opportunities and requirements.
- The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is accepting applications for a competitive grant to promote immigrant civic integration and to prepare permanent residents for citizenship. USCIS expects to offer up to 40 grants for a total of up to \$10 million for citizenship preparation programs in communities across the country. This funding opportunity is for public or non-profit organizations that offer both citizenship instruction and naturalization application services. [Applications](#) are due by May 16, 2014.
- The Captain Planet Foundation (CPF) is pleased to announce a [competitive grant program](#) in partnership with the Ray C. Anderson Foundation. Sixteen \$2500 grants will be awarded to schools or non-profit organizations for the purpose of engaging children in inquiry-based projects in STEM fields that use innovation, biomimicry/nature-based design, or new applications of technology to address environmental problems in their communities. Application opens January 15, 2014, with rolling deadline through May 31, 2014 (as funds allow). Rolling deadline starts January 15th, 2014, for projects in the summer and fall of 2014.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- The [Data Snapshot](#) for Human Services from the Office of Career and Technical Education, Virginia Department of Education, helps educators, students, and parents see connections between the [Plans of Study](#) and career opportunities in high-skill, high wage, in-demand fields.
- For resources on entrepreneurship in the field of community services, see [What Is Social Entrepreneurship?](#), [6 Entrepreneurs Who Turned Service Into a Career](#), [Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship](#), and [The Rise of Social Entrepreneurship ...](#).
- [Student Resources](#) provides information and activities for instruction in the Human Services cluster.
- The [Texas Statewide Instructional Resources Development Center](#) offers lesson plans, news, and updates for teachers in the Human Services cluster.
- For a large library of cosmetology PowerPoint presentations, go to [Lesson Plans by Chapter](#).

For more information, contact Judith Sams, editor, Office of Career and Technical Education Services, at cte@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at 804-371-0196.