



**Visual Arts** is a program of study in the **Arts, Audio-Video Technology, and Communications Career Cluster**. A Career Cluster is a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. There are 16 Career Clusters.

Career clusters link what students learn in school with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and careers. The Arts, Audio-Visual Technology, and Communications career cluster requires activities that challenge students' creative talents. The ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written form is important.

There are five programs of study in this cluster:

- Audio and Video Technology and Film
- Journalism and Broadcasting
- Performing Arts
- Printing Technology
- Visual Arts

### Employment Outlook

Employment of **Fashion Designers** will likely grow more slowly than average through 2016. Employment growth for fashion designers will stem from a growing population demanding more clothing, footwear, and accessories. Demand is increasing for stylish clothing that is affordable. Job competition is expected to be high. Firms that design mass market clothing for retail in department stores and chain stores will offer the best job opportunities. The starting salaries for fashion designer in Texas are \$37,406 (Texas Workforce Commission, 2009). Nationally, salaries range from \$32,150 to \$124,780 (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009).

### Using this brochure

Inside you will find a suggested **program of study** that has lots of helpful information for you and your parents. The model is an example of the types of courses and extended learning experiences that are important for the **Visual Arts Program of Study**. Use this model to plan your course schedule, educational experiences, and career choices.

At the top of the model, you will find **career goals** with the corresponding **O\*NET code**. The O\*NET code is an official classification of jobs and can be used to locate career-related information. Your teacher, counselor, or media center should be able to help you locate further information.

The upper left side of the model highlights the **core courses and career-related electives** in high school that will help prepare you for your career goal. This model is based upon the Recommended High School Graduation Plan and can easily be adapted for the Distinguished Achievement High School Graduation Plan.

The upper right side of the model highlights examples of **extended learning experiences** that can enhance your knowledge and skills for your career goal. You will find examples of curricular activities, such as participation in Career and Technical Student Organizations like FCCLA, career learning experiences, service learning activities, and extracurricular activities.

The lower left side of the model indicates **industry licensures/certifications** and **on-the-job training experiences** that may be available while still in high school. This section also highlights the various levels of **postsecondary education** and examples of **career options** available to you once you have completed that level of education and training.

The lower right side of the model contains examples of **professional associations** available for fashion design professionals. Many organizations allow preprofessional membership while enrolled in a postsecondary program. Most organizations have websites which can be easily located by entering the organization name in available search engines.

# Thinking about a career in Fashion Design?

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<http://www.achievetexas.org>

This program of study may be for you! Fashion designers help create clothing articles, shoes, and accessories purchased every year by consumers. They study fashion trends, sketch designs, select colors and fabrics, and oversee the final production of their designs. Look inside to see suggested coursework and learning opportunities that will prepare you for an exciting and rewarding career.

