



National Security is a program of study in the **Government and Public Administration 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 Government and Public Administration Career Cluster focuses on those careers that are unique to government and not contained in another Career Cluster.

There are seven programs of study in this cluster:

- Foreign Service
- Governance
- National Security
- Planning
- Public Management and Administration
- Regulation
- Revenue and Taxation

Employment Outlook

There are many jobs that might be right for you in the **Armed Forces**. A wide variety of jobs are available in the military, from being a physician to a soldier to a helicopter mechanic. For qualified individuals, job opportunities are excellent in all branches of the Armed Forces through 2016 (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009). Pay is based on a military members pay grade, usually the same as rank, and years of service, plus benefits. Although most military personnel start as recruits, those with special skills or higher education are often eligible to enter at a higher rank (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009).

Using this brochure

Inside you will find a suggested **program of study** that has lots of helpful information. The model is an example of the types of courses and extended learning experiences that are important for the **National Security 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 SkillsUSA, 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 national security 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.

