

2026 EXPLORATORY TRADES AND INDUSTRY

Program Standards

CONTENT STANDARD 1.0: PRINCIPLES OF TRADES AND INDUSTRY

Performance Standard 1.1: Student Leadership in Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

- 1.1.1 Define the values, roles, and opportunities provided through career technical student organizations (i.e. SkillsUSA).
- 1.1.2 Investigate in career exploration and skill development.

CONTENT STANDARD 2.0: CAREER PATHWAYS IN TRADES AND INDUSTRY

Performance Standard 2.1: Pathway Exploration and Entry Requirements

- 2.1.1 Identify major Trades and Industry career pathways (e.g., construction, manufacturing, transportation, welding, diesel technology, and related fields).
- 2.1.2 Describe the roles, responsibilities, and work environments of careers within Trades and Industry.
- 2.1.3 Compare the education, training, certifications, and career pathways required for selected occupations.

CONTENT STANDARD 3.0: SAFETY IN TRADES AND INDUSTRY

Performance Standard 3.1: Laboratory and Shop Safety Practices

- 3.1.1 Identify general laboratory and shop safety rules and procedures.
- 3.1.2 Demonstrate proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and appropriate lab attire.
- 3.1.3 Demonstrate safe operation of emergency and shop safety equipment.
- 3.1.4 Maintain a clean, organized, and safe work environment.

CONTENT STANDARD 4.0: TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

Performance Standard 4.1: Hand and Power Tool Use and Maintenance

- 4.1.1 Identify common hand tools, power tools, and equipment, and describe their intended uses.
- 4.1.2 Demonstrate safe and proper operation of basic hand tools and selected power tools.
- 4.1.3 Demonstrate proper cleaning, storage, and basic maintenance of tools and equipment.

CONTENT STANDARD 5.0: MEASUREMENT

Performance Standard 5.1: Measurement Tools and Systems

- 5.1.1 Identify common measuring tools used in Trades and Industry.
- 5.1.2 Select the appropriate measuring tool for a specific task.
- 5.1.3 Measure the length, width, height, weight, or other dimensions of an object using appropriate measuring tools.
- 5.1.4 Convert measurements between the U.S. customary and metric measurement systems.

CONTENT STANDARD 6.0: INDUSTRY SYSTEMS

Performance Standard 6.1: Materials, Processes, and Industry Decisions

- 6.1.1 Identify common tools, equipment, materials, technologies, and processes used in the construction, manufacturing, and transportation industries.
- 6.1.2 Describe how materials, energy, and technology are used to design, build, manufacture, transport, and maintain products and systems.



- 6.1.3 Explain how safety, planning, efficiency, cost, quality, and sustainability influence industry decisions and processes.

CONTENT STANDARD 7.0: EMPLOYABILITY

Performance Standard 7.1: Workplace Readiness Skills

- 7.1.1 Demonstrate effective communication, teamwork, and professional behavior.
7.1.2 Demonstrate time management, organization, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.

IDCTE Document Control Information

Program Standard Revision: Middle School Exploratory: Trades and Industry

Date	Standard #	Original	Summary of Change	Revised By	Approved By