

Career Interest Inventories

July 6, 2011

NDCC 15.1-21-18. Career interest inventory-Education and career planning-Consultation. A school district shall administer to students, once during their enrollment in grade seven or eight and once during their enrollment in grades nine or ten, a career interest inventory recommended by the department of career and technical education and approved by the superintendent of public instruction.”

1. **Interest Profiler** – (Grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10, free to ND schools). The Interest Profiler helps individuals identify work-related interests, acquire self-knowledge about their vocational personality type, and develop career awareness of matching occupations. The Interest Profiler is appropriate for users 14 years of age or older with eighth grade or higher level reading skills. Most participants can complete the Interest Profiler and print the results within 15 to 20 minutes. The results can be saved to the on-line Student Portfolio. The Interest Profiler is also available in Spanish. The Department Of Labor designed the Interest Profiler to be compatible with the work of John L. Holland and has been tested to be valid and reliable.

The Interest Profiler assessment is available through the state’s career information delivery system (CIDS), <http://www.RUReadyND.com>, and matches interests to occupations based on the **Holland Codes** as well as the **16 Career Clusters**. The interest assessment can also be accessed through the O*NET website at <http://www.onetcenter.org/IP.html>.

2. **Career Clusters Interest Survey** – (Grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10, free). For use with the National and ND 16 Career Clusters; the survey is found at <http://www.careertech.org/resources/clusters/interest-survey.html> and may be printed for educational use. An on-line version of the Career Cluster Interest Survey called the “Cluster Finder” can also be found at <http://www.RUReadyND.com>

(The remaining inventories are available for a fee.)

3. **ACT EXPLORE (grade 8 or 9) and ACT PLAN (grade 10)** – Both of these assessments are achievement tests that include an interest inventory. **EXPLORE** is used at grade 8 or 9 and focuses on preparing for high school studies, and **PLAN** at grade 10 with a focus on planning and preparing for college and the workplace.

These interest inventories help students explore personally relevant career options. Students can explore occupations and academic courses in line with their preferences for common, everyday, activities involving data, ideas, people, and things. Both inventories provide scores on **six scales that parallel John Holland’s six types** of interests and occupations. Scores are linked to career options on the **World-of-Work Map**, which has 26 career areas arranged into 12 regions. For ordering information, go to <http://www.act.org>

4. **COPS Interest Inventory** (grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10). The COPS Interest Inventory consists of 168 items, providing job activity interest scores related to the **14 COPS System Career Clusters**. Each Cluster is keyed to high school and college curriculum, as well as current sources of occupational information. Find information at <http://www.edits.net/products/copsystem.html> For information regarding validity and reliability see <http://www.edits.net/products/iris.html>

5. **Self Directed Search Form R** (grade 9 or 10) - (Formerly known as the Strong Campbell Interest Inventory). The Self Directed Search inventory is based on **John Holland’s RIASEC codes**. Take the inventory on-line at <http://www.self-directed-search.com/>. For ordering paper/pencil version – see <http://www.parinc.com>.

6. **IDEAS Self-scored Assessment** (grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10). The IDEAS inventory is based on **RIASEC (Holland) codes** and is appropriate for junior high through high school; an adult version is also available. For information see: http://psychcorp.pearsonassessments.com/pai/ca/productlisting.htm?Community=CA_Ed_AI_Career.
7. **JOB-O Enhanced** (grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10). The JOB-O Enhanced inventory is designed to work best with 7th through 10th grade populations; it may be used above or below that level according to the abilities and needs of students. After completing the assessment, students match their responses with **occupational families**, as well as with specific occupations within each family. For information see: <http://www.cfkr.com/index.html>.
8. **JOB-O-A** (grade 9 or 10). The JOB-O-A career planner provides students with the tools to make a self-assessment of their interests, work skills and work values. After completing the assessment, students match their responses with **occupational families**, as well as with specific occupations within each family. For information see: <http://www.cfkr.com/index.html>.
9. **Kuder Career Search** (grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10). The Kuder Career Search with Person Match aligns top interests with the **sixteen career clusters** into an easy to read **report**. For product and ordering information see: <http://www.kuder.com/solutions/kuder-assessments.html>.
10. **Career Matchmaker** (grades 7 or 8 and 9 or 10). Part of “Career Cruising”, a suite of online career guidance and planning tools. Matchmaker utilizes the **16 Career Clusters** in reporting results. <http://www.careercruising.com/>.