



CULINARY PROGRAM



The culinary program at Vista Academy is designed to introduce students to all aspects of the culinary industry. Students will be taught kitchen production skills, dining room, and catering skills. Once students have completed their prerequisites, they have the opportunity to take courses in the ProStart program as 11th and 12th grade students. Students in the program are eligible for concurrent enrollment with Metro State University.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Foundations in Hospitality and Tourism

This course provides an overview of the travel and tourism industry. Topics covered may include travel and tourism terminology, the history of travel, introduction to marketing, and the various careers available in travel and tourism.

Catering I and II

These courses examine specific topics related to restaurant, food, and beverage services.

ProStart I

The ProStart Program is a nationally recognized program designed by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, available to students in their junior and senior year of high school. ProStart teaches entry-level skills and knowledge while introducing students to careers in the foodservice and hospitality industry. Through ProStart, a partnership is created between the school and local restaurants to provide relevant occupational training and education. Over the course of three years, students are offered instruction in subject areas ranging from basic food preparation, accounting and cost control, sanitation and workplace safety, to business and economics. A nationally recognized certification is awarded to students who successfully complete the academic and work experience components and pass the final exam.



INDUSTRY CERTIFICATES

ProStart Level 1 or
Level 2 Exam
ServSafe Food Manager



CAREER PATHS AND AVERAGE SALARIES

Food Preparation
Worker
\$27,503

Event Planner
\$45,000

Chef or Head Cook
\$50,975

Lodging Manager
\$68,650

General/Operations
Manager
\$122,000





HOSPITALITY CONNECT

HospitalityConnect prepares students for careers ranging from hotel management to culinary arts. Students can participate in regional competitions to hone their skills and may even receive industry certifications.

READY TO ENROLL?

For questions or to begin the enrollment process, contact CTE Pathway Director, **Erik Andersen**, at **720-373-6949** or email **erik_andersen@dpsk12.org**.

CONNECT WITH A VISTA ACADEMY SCHOOL COUNSELOR:

Fumnanya Camara

School Counselor
720-423-7549

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Jose Hernandez

School Counselor
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CAREER CAPSTONE

Complete a minimum of four semesters (or three courses and a Career Launch Internship) within a Career Pathway with a C or better and earn an industry certification.

WORK BASED OPPORTUNITIES



Xplore Industry Exploration

The Xplore Industry Exploration Program provides a critical real-world exposure to companies in each student's field of study or CareerConnect pathway. DPS students — most in ninth grade — learn about careers available within a particular industry and observe the work performed by people in those careers. They also learn about post-high school educational paths to the careers they observe.



Coach Mentoring

Coach Mentoring is an opportunity for high school students, mostly sophomores, to connect with a professional in their field of interest. Students and mentors follow a structured set of activities to help the student envision potential educational and professional paths.

CareerConnect staff match students and mentors and facilitate their meetings, which typically occur monthly and rotate between the student's school and the mentor's workplace. The program helps students to develop critical soft skills and a positive and lasting adult connection in their chosen field.



Launch Internships

Launch Internship is designed to give students — typically high school juniors and seniors — a first-hand look at a career they're interested in. Internships can take place over the course of a semester or a summer, and typically last 100 to 120 hours. CareerConnect staff help match students with internships and provide support throughout the experience, including a skills-training class that students take prior to their first day of work. Students may complete more than one internship, either returning to the same workplace or trying a different field.

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work-based-learning-with-careerconnect](https://collegeandcareer.dpsk12.org/work-based-learning-with-careerconnect)

