



Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

As I've said on many occasions, our people are Alabama's greatest strength, especially our young people, who hold the state's future in their hands. As the guardians of our state's future, students deserve every possible tool to help them—and Alabama—succeed in all areas.

To achieve this, we have created the Alabama SUCCESS Guides, which are designed to assist students in identifying resources regarding

careers, postsecondary education and financial literacy. Through our students, we are positioning our state for even greater accomplishments. They will be well-equipped for careers in Alabama's workforce which will allow them to compete—and excel—in our global economy.

This Alabama SUCCESS Guide is an excellent tool in helping our students of today become our leaders of tomorrow.

ATTENTION PARENTS!

This guide is part of a series created to help students in Alabama learn more about high-demand careers, salaries, the steps they need to take to reach their goals, and the resources that can help them get there.

The workforce has changed since you entered it. Many of the jobs that exist today were not even created when you graduated from high

school, and the pace of change is faster than ever! However, since work skills are transferable to many jobs, by helping your student connect with what they learn in the classroom to real jobs that interest them, they will graduate better equipped for life after high school.

Thank you for talking with your child about what careers interest them – and why. You can help them by

sharing your own work experiences with your child. Ask people in your community who work in jobs that interest your child to share about their careers or let your child visit their workplace. And last, but not least, go with your child to meet with their school counselor or career coach to get them moving in the right direction. Help them prepare for their future...today.



WHAT EMPLOYERS WANT

**STEVE MARSHALL
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ALABAMA**

“ALABAMA’S GREATEST HEROES ARE OUR WELL TRAINED AND DEDICATED LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL. In order to keep our communities safe, law enforcement agencies require men and women committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity, honesty, and bravery. As Alabama’s top law enforcement official, I personally feel these characteristics are important from the ground up. Police officers, Deputy Sheriffs, State Troopers, and Attorney General Special Agents must be of the highest caliber. If you want to be part of this elite group of men and women devoted to protecting the people of our state, then I encourage you to consider a career in law enforcement!”

WHAT’S INSIDE

Think Again	3
Career Ideas	4
Hot Jobs	5-6
Personal Bios	7-8
Four Year Plan	9
Getting Ready	10
Clusters and Pathways	11



CLUSTER: LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY

THINK AGAIN

MYTH: We have more law enforcement, firefighters and lawyers than we need.

FACTS: According to the Alabama Fire College, the reality is that the emergency services personnel is shrinking. Due to the volume of calls, increased responsibilities, and aging personnel, the field of law, public safety, corrections and security is one of the fastest growing areas. Opportunities for growth abound in this area.

Now is the time to take a fresh look at Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security careers you may not have considered before.

REALITY CHECK

WHAT IT COSTS TO LIVE ON YOUR OWN IN ALABAMA
 Estimated 2017-2018 monthly expenses for a 22 year-old living in Birmingham.

NOTE: Keep in mind that your paycheck will be reduced by about 30 percent to cover taxes, retirement, and insurance. What's left is known as your "take-home pay." Subtract 30 percent from the salaries shown on pages 5 and 6 to get a more accurate take-home amount.

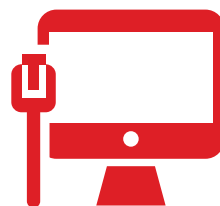
Groceries:
 \$350-\$400



Mobile Phone:
 \$55



Cable and Internet:
 \$80



Gasoline:
 \$100
 (1,000 miles @ \$3.00 per gallon, 30 mpg)



Rent and Utilities:
 \$700-\$850
 (1 Bedroom)



Car Payment:
 \$350-\$450
 (Used 2016)



Car Insurance:
 \$60-\$125
 (6-Month Policy)



Sources:
 RENT: rentbits.com/rb/t/rental-rates/birmingham-al
 CAR: carsdirect.com
 MOBILE PHONE: att.com, verizon.com
 GROCERIES: bestplaces.net
 CABLE AND INTERNET: birmingham.mybriighthouse.com
 CAR INSURANCE: progressive.com
 GAS: gasbuddy.com



POLICE OR SHERIFF'S PATROL OFFICER

Job Description: Maintain order and protect life and property by enforcing local, tribal, State, or Federal laws and ordinances. Perform a combination of the following duties: patrol a specific area; direct traffic; issue traffic summonses; investigate accidents; apprehend and arrest suspects, or serve legal processes of courts.

Education: High school diploma or equivalent and License

Salary Range: \$30,571 – \$50,820



LAWYER

Job Description: Represent clients in criminal and civil litigation and other legal proceedings, draw up legal documents, or manage or advise clients on legal transactions. May specialize in a single area or may practice broadly in many areas of law.

Education: Doctoral or professional degree and Licenses

Salary Range: \$58,735 – \$147,017

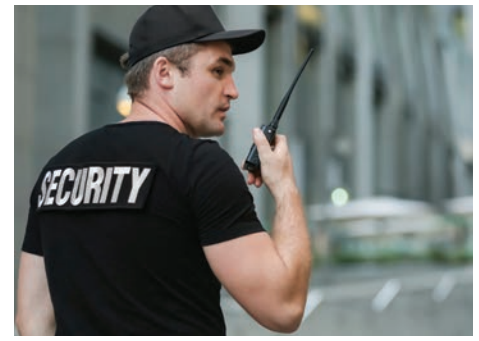


FIREFIGHTER

Job Description: Control and extinguish fires or respond to emergency situations where life, property, or the environment is at risk. Duties may include fire prevention, emergency medical service, hazardous material response, search and rescue, and disaster assistance.

Education: Postsecondary non-degree award and Licenses

Salary Range: \$27,692 – \$48,180



SECURITY GUARD

Job Description: Guard, patrol, or monitor premises to prevent theft, violence, or infractions of rules. May operate x-ray and metal detector equipment.

Education: High school diploma or equivalent

Salary Range: \$17,619 – \$28,003



PARALEGAL OR LEGAL ASSISTANT

Job Description: Assist lawyers by investigating facts, preparing legal documents, or researching legal precedent. Conduct research to support a legal proceeding, to formulate a defense, or to initiate legal action.

Education: Associate's degree

Salary Range: \$30,428 – \$53,041



CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OR JAILER

Job Description: Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit between jail, courtroom, prison, or other point. Includes deputy sheriffs and police who spend the majority of their time guarding prisoners in correctional institutions.

Education:
High school diploma or equivalent
Salary Range: \$27,328 – \$42,057



DETECTIVE OR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR

Job Description: Conduct investigations related to suspected violations of Federal, State, or local laws to prevent or solve crimes.

Education:
High school diploma or equivalent
Salary Range: \$ 36,569 – \$76,162



LIFEGUARD, SKI PATROL, OR OTHER RECREATIONAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE WORKER

Job Description: Monitor recreational areas, such as pools, beaches, or ski slopes to provide assistance and protection to participants.

Education:
No formal educational credential
Salary Range: \$17,629 – \$19,604



POLICE, FIRE, OR AMBULANCE DISPATCHER

Job Description: Operate radio, telephone, or computer equipment at emergency response centers. Receive reports from the public of crimes, disturbances, fires, and medical or police emergencies. Relay information to law enforcement and emergency response personnel. May maintain contact with caller until responders arrive.

Education:
High school diploma or equivalent
Salary Range: \$24,237 – \$38,672

NOAH COBB LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

HARTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Graduate of Samson High School
Samson, AL

My current position includes working in the community, helping those in need by responding to dangerous calls, and working traffic in an effort to prevent accidents and reckless driving.

Helping others and trying to make a true difference has always been a goal I have had in mind. In high school I worked at a local bank, and was part of many clubs at school, as well as playing varsity football. Staying busy was good for me and kept me from going down the wrong paths that could have hindered me

from the career I knew that I wanted. Skipping parties to study, missing out on riding dirt roads because you're working, and sleeping in on Saturday morning because you had a physically demanding football game all seem boring and not worth it, but in the end it will make you a better person. After graduating high school, I started attending community

"I am still attending school to be able to advance in my career."

college which was a great choice because it allowed me to stay at home and keep my job and get my education at the same time. One day a co-worker told me about an officer position that had opened up at a neighboring town's agency. I applied and was fortunate enough to get my dream job before even finishing my degree. I am still attending school to be able to advance in my career. There are lots of jobs and career paths you can choose. The most important thing to remember is to always maintain a good reputation, stay positive, and be willing to work your way up.

CAROLINE MUSE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP

Graduate of Mountain Brook High School
Mountain Brook, AL

I represent clients in various litigation matters in both state and federal courts working for a private law firm.

My great-grandfather was a lawyer, my grandfather was a lawyer, and my dad, though no longer a practicing attorney, went to law school. I wanted to be different. In college, I studied communications and sociology, hoping to either write for a magazine or work in development for a nonprofit. It wasn't until I graduated college that the realities of the job market and student debt began to sink in. I needed to find a job and fast. I lucked into

"Dependability and integrity are crucial for a career in law, so I always show up to work on time and am willing to do whatever is asked."

a job with a major law firm in Dallas, Texas, not having any idea what I was getting into. After several years there, working for and with attorneys in various practice groups, I decided that if I was going to work for attorneys, I might as well become one. So that's what I did.

Although I've only been a practicing lawyer for six months, I can already tell that fate knew what it was doing when it placed me in this position. The work is extremely varied, challenging, and exciting, and the people I work with are some of the brightest I've ever met. I'm looking forward to seeing where the practice of law takes me. The job requires 100% mental focus at all times, and the hours can be long. Dependability and integrity are crucial for a career in law, so I always show up to work on time and am willing to do whatever is asked.

ROBBIE ALEXANDER HYDE ATTORNEY

ALEXANDER HYDE, LLC

Graduate of Cherokee High School
Cherokee, AL

I started my own law firm in 2014 after many years of working with law firms primarily in litigation of cases involving governmental entities. I practice in the areas of constitutional and civil rights law and regularly litigate cases involving such disputes.

Although I concentrated on a science and mathematics path in high school, I began to doubt if a career based on those studies was the path I wanted to continue down. My classmates began to encourage me to explore the idea of a career in law and even elected me to be the "class lawyer." The idea rubbed

off on me, and I did eventually choose to go to law school. Not one to put all my eggs in one basket, I chose a college major on which I could fall back (Spanish and International Trade). I reasoned that I could teach Spanish

"My ability to relate to my clients and explain things to them in terms they can understand but without any condescension has served me well."

if the legal thing did not pan out. However, I have not needed to explore that avenue.

I enjoy the versatility of my profession. Although the main thrust of my practice is litigation, I also conduct training sessions for employers and provide advice in how to proceed in avoiding employment disputes. I find this aspect of my practice very rewarding. My ability to relate to my clients and explain things to them in terms they can understand but without any condescension has served me well.



MATT HARDEN
CAPTAIN

PRATTVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Graduate of Ariton High School
Ariton, AL

In my current position as a Training Captain for the Prattville Fire Department, I am responsible for ensuring that the other personnel employed by the PFD receive the adequate amount of training required to maintain their Firefighter certifications.

I grew up in a fire department family. My dad entered the fire service when I was in the second grade, and I grew up in and around the firehouse. After high school, I went to community college with no real direction for what I wanted to do for my career. After my second year at community college, I

decided to attend an EMT Basic class, and it was then that I found a career that I wanted to be a part of. After several conversations, my parents persuaded me to continue and finish my education prior to entering the fire service. After graduating from Troy University, I found my first job in the fire service and

“After high school, I went to community college with no real direction for what I wanted to do for my career.”

began Recruit School to earn my Firefighter I/II certification. After several years in the fire service I decided to continue my education and enroll in the Paramedic Program at a local community college. Earning my Paramedic license has allowed me to promote and move up the ranks to my current position as a Captain. In the future, I hope to continue my upward progression through the promotional ranks, promoting to Battalion Chief, where I will be tasked with leading 25-30 personnel who operate each day's shift, and eventually earn the rank of Fire Chief of a department.

SGT. CAMERON BATES
DETECTIVE DIVISION

CLANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Graduate of Jemison High School
Jemison, AL

I really enjoy helping people while working as a Detective and solving cases and getting justice for the victims and their families. My experience in Law Enforcement allows me to teach high school students what it's like to be a Police Officer in a school type setting. I see firsthand many of these kids have a rougher than normal home life, and it allows me to be a huge influence on the students becoming productive instead of destructive people in today's society.

When I was a child, I wanted to be a fireman until one day there was a homicide of my

mom's friend. When the detectives came and interviewed my mom, I became very infatuated with the case. I decided that I would one day solve the case that has been a cold case for twenty plus years now. I worked a few odd and end jobs after high school before

“I would encourage anyone getting into this profession to get your degree first to make yourself more knowledgeable than the other candidates.”

getting my job as a corrections officer at our local county jail. While working at the jail, I decided I wanted to further my career in law enforcement, and after a few years went back to school to obtain my degree. I would encourage anyone getting into this profession to get your degree first to make yourself more knowledgeable than the other candidates. I have also been involved in the Fire Service for over 25 years. I am the city's Fire Marshal as well as a Detective for the Police Department. It's emotionally straining sometimes – long hours working holidays and weekends – however the reward is GREAT!

JUDGE STUART K. SMITH
DISTRICT JUDGE

DALE COUNTY

Graduate of Carroll High School
Ozark, AL

As a District Judge, it is my job to make the final decision when the parties involved can't agree on a resolution. As District Judge, I'm also the Chairman of our local Children's Policy Council.

I was like many boys growing up; all I could think about and all I wanted to do was play and watch sports. I played at a pretty high level in high school in basketball and golf. After a year of junior college, I attended Auburn University. I even tried to walk on to the Auburn University Basketball team in college, but didn't make the team. That was

the point that I honestly realized that I wasn't ever going to play professional sports for a living.

Law and law enforcement were really the only things that I could see myself doing that weren't sports related. I didn't make very good grades the first couple of semesters at Auburn, but the further along I got, the better my grades got, and even managed to make a 4.0 during one semester of my senior year. While in law school, I worked full time and went to school part time at night. Working full time while attending law school taught me a

very important work ethic for the field of law. I knew that a law degree opens up a lot of doors, even if I didn't want to be an attorney, so that is the route I took. I now sit as a Judge in the county where I grew up, and I am thankful for all of the experiences that I had along the way that got me here.

“While in law school, I worked full time and went to school part time at night.”



MAKE A PLAN

SIT DOWN WITH YOUR PARENTS AND COUNSELOR AND CREATE A PLAN

Map out an Alabama Education Plan (sample below) based on your interests, strengths, and possible career goals. Your plan outlines the courses and electives you'll take in high school, plus related co-curricular organization and career preparation experiences. Your school counselor or career coach will work with you to determine the learning experiences needed for you to complete your plan, such as using distance learning or earning college credit from your local community college. Below is a sample Alabama Education Plan for you to use as a guide.

SAMPLE EDUCATION PLAN FOR THIS CAREER CLUSTER

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
FRESHMAN YEAR	SOPHOMORE YEAR	JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
English 9 Algebra I Physical Science World History *Career Preparedness *LIFE PE **Elective	English 10 Geometry Biology United States History 10 *Health/Elective **Elective **Elective	English 11 Algebra II Science Elective United States History 11 **Elective **Elective **Elective	English 12 Math Elective Science Elective US Government/Economics **Elective **Elective **Elective

*Other Required Courses

**Career & Technical Education and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education (3 Credits)

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY CLUSTER COURSES

Core Forensic & Criminal Investigations	Introduction to Criminal Justice	Police Patrol
Emergency Services	Introduction to Fire Science	Principles of Public Service
Fire Fighting	Introduction to Law and the American Legal System	Senior Career Pathway Project--Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
Forensic & Criminal Investigations	Law in Society	

CO-CURRICULAR

WORK-BASED LEARNING

SkillsUSA	Job Shadowing Career Day/Fair	Internship Field Trips	Work Experience Guest Speakers
-----------	----------------------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------------

GETTING READY

MAPPING OUT YOUR PROGRAM

GRADE 8

- Research your career options based on your interests, talents, and goals.
- Create an Alabama Education Plan (see page 9).

GRADE 9 FRESHMAN YEAR

- Choose a career cluster.
- Do your best work in all your classes. Course selection and grades really do count when you are applying to colleges and training programs.
- Keep a folder or portfolio of your activities, awards, accomplishments, and work experience, and add to it during your high school career.

GRADE 10 SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Continue building the strongest possible academic record.
- Consider taking the ACT if you plan to apply to a two-year college or university in the future.
- Consider taking the PSAT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Test) if you plan to apply to a two-year college or university in the future.
- Use the information in your portfolio to create a resumé.
- Apply for summer jobs, internships, or volunteer activities related to your career cluster.

GRADE 11 JUNIOR YEAR

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT.
- Use resources available at your school (books, online tools, college fairs, etc.) to research postsecondary education options related to your career goals.
- Register to take either the ACT or the SAT I and SAT II Subject Tests. (There are testing dates every month from January through June). Registration deadlines are approximately four weeks before each testing date.
- Apply for summer jobs, internships, and volunteer activities related to your career goals.
- Use studentaid.ed.gov to determine your financial aid eligibility.

GRADE 12 SENIOR YEAR

- In the fall, apply to postsecondary programs and retake any standardized college admissions tests if you would like to improve your score.
- Beginning in October, complete college financial aid forms. Deadlines and required data differ from school to school, so read the instructions carefully.
- In the spring, choose your postsecondary program on the basis of where you have been accepted, costs, etc.
- Continue doing your best work. All schools require a final transcript before making your acceptance official.

COLLEGE PREP: GETTING ACCEPTED

The college admissions process can be stressful and a bit scary, especially if you are the first in your family to apply. Give yourself the best shot at getting into a college program that matches your goals by following these five steps:

1. MAKE THE GRADE

Your grade point average really does count, so do your best work on every assignment, pay attention in class, and participate in group discussions.

2. MAKE A LIST

Before you can apply to college, you have to figure out what you would like to study and what matters most to you (like college location, size, or religious affiliation). Use the college guides in your local library, school library, school counselor's or career coach's office to start making a list of colleges that interest you. Use online tools like collegeboard.org and accs.cc to learn more about each school and take virtual campus tours.

3. GET INVOLVED

Build teamwork and leadership skills by joining career technical student organizations, clubs, and teams at your school, volunteering for service projects, and participating in church or community activities.

4. PLAN FOR TEST

Most colleges want scores from the ACT, SAT, or SAT II tests. See what tests the schools on your list require, sign up to take them in time to include the scores on your application, and then practice the free SAT sample questions at collegeboard.org or sample ACT tests at actstudent.org.

5. BE NEAT AND COMPLETE

Before you send in a college application, double-check your spelling, make sure nothing is missing, and save a copy just in case you have to submit it again.

PAYING YOUR WAY: FINANCIAL AID

Every Alabama student can afford to go to college. It just takes a little planning. Put your college dreams within financial reach by taking these five steps:

1. CONSIDER A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Alabama's public and private two-year colleges offer an affordable way to earn an associate's degree or complete enough credits to transfer into a four-year school as a junior. Learn more at accs.cc.

2. WEIGH YOUR OPTIONS

Attending one of Alabama's four-year public or private schools cuts travel costs and other living expenses, as compared to attending schools out of state. In addition, public schools offer reduced in-state tuition, and, if there's a college nearby, you can save even more by living at home.

3. RISE TO THE TOP

Apply to a couple of schools at which your grades and accomplishments put you near the top of the typical applicant pool.

4. DO A LITTLE DIGGING

More than one million local, national, and college-specific scholarships are available each year. Ask your school counselor or career coach for help finding printed scholarship resource guides. To find and apply for scholarships online, sign up for the free college scholarship search source achievealabama.org.

5. APPLY FOR AID

Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning on October 1 of your Senior year. FAFSA forms and instruction booklets are available at your school counselor's office and online at studentaid.ed.gov. Some schools also require the CSS/Financial Aid Profile form (profileonline.collegeboard.org), and others have their own financial aid forms. Carefully read each college's application to know what forms you need to submit and when.

	AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES
	ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION
	ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS
	BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION
	EDUCATION & TRAINING
	FINANCE
	GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
	HEALTH SCIENCE
	HOSPITALITY & TOURISM
	HUMAN SERVICES
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
	LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY
	MANUFACTURING
	MARKETING
	STEM
	TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS

CLUSTER PATHWAYS

Emergency & Fire Management Services

Law Enforcement

Legal Services

POST SECONDARY LEARNING

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

4-YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

WORK-BASED LEARNING

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sean J. Stevens
 Alabama State Department of Education
 PO Box 302101
 Montgomery, AL 36130-2101
 334-242-9111 phone
 334-353-8861 fax
 sstevens@alsde.edu

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, sex, religion, national origin, or age in its programs, activities, or employment and provides equal access to the Boys Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person is responsible for handling inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator, Alabama State Department of Education, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101 or call (334) 242-8165.

ALABAMAWORKS.COM/SUCCESSGUIDES