

K to Career:

Inspiring our future young professionals to develop marketable skills and be more experienced and ready to join the workforce.

This Dublin City Schools program is funded by a grant from the State of Ohio and allows K-12 students to explore and nurture their passions through hands-on learning and mentoring from industry experts.

K to Career consists of three components:

Virtual Mentoring *(name under development)*

Students in grades K-12 have the chance to connect with professional mentors online, under the supervision of a teacher. Teachers can also use this tool/system to pull inspiration and in-class project ideas from career experts. Students and teachers communicate with mentors from different fields via web-based messages or live chats. The benefit for all is immersion in hands-on, real-world experiences that will prepare students for the ever-changing workforce ahead.

IT Academy

This new program allows juniors and seniors at all three Dublin high schools to take college-level information technology and computer science courses. Real life experiences and mentoring from industry experts equip students with college, career and life skills. Dual enrollment means both high school and Columbus State Community College credits for students!

Through a Columbus State, Tolles and Dublin City Schools partnership, students receive IT-specific training, on-the-job experience and a nationally recognized technical certificate upon completion. Students can then either stay with the Columbus State program or move to a four-year college where the certificate could help land them a technology-based, part-time job paying \$16-\$20/hour. Enrollment for the 2015/16 academic year begins early in 2015.

Professional Development *(name under development)*

This form of e-learning will give Dublin educators access to the latest best practices based on real world, industry applications. The training software offers a modular way for teachers to explore ways to expose kids to careers and authentic experiences, and to engage with working professionals. This tool will essentially give teachers an opportunity to bring the outside world into their classrooms.

For more information, please visit the K to Career blog at ktocareer.com or follow us on twitter [@dublinSTEM](https://twitter.com/dublinSTEM). You can also contact Kimberly Clavin, Manager of STEM Initiatives, at:

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