**Vocational Studies Complete™**
Alignment with Common Core State Standards

This document demonstrates to educators the ways in which *Vocational Studies Complete* can be used to accomplish the curriculum goals set out by the Common Core State Standards for high school students. *Vocational Studies Complete* is designed to meet the research needs of students in two-year colleges as well as those attending vocational or technical high schools. This document will focus on grades 9-12.

This document illustrates how an educator at a vocational or technical high school might:

- Interpret the Common Core State Standards
- Use *Vocational Studies Complete* to identify relevant content applicable to the Common Core State Standards
- Use the texts and multimedia available through *Vocational Studies Complete* to develop a curriculum aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

**What is Vocational Studies Complete?**

*Vocational Studies Complete* contains full-text journals and a selection of full-text books applicable to vocational and technical high school programs. Key subjects covered include accounting, agriculture, architecture, automotive repair, biotechnology, computer programming, construction, cosmetology, culinary arts, electrical engineering, fashion design, forensics, graphic arts, information technology, interior design, law enforcement, marketing, photography, robotics, veterinary studies and tourism.

**How do Common Core State Standards relate to Technical and Vocational High School curriculum programs?**

The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects defines the skills and understandings that all students must demonstrate to be college- and career-ready. These include:

**Reading**

**Text Complexity**
- Read and comprehend complex informational texts in the grades 9-12 complexity bands independently and proficiently.

**Key Ideas and Details**
- Understand and summarize the main ideas of a text.
- Cite specific evidence to support analysis of texts.
Craft and Structure
- Analyze how structure of a text and specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
- Recognize an author’s purpose for writing a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
- Evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (such as illustrations, drawings, charts, diagrams, and in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.

Writing

Production and Distribution of Writing
- Use technology, including the internet, to produce, publish and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback or new information.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge
- Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of task, purpose and audience; integrate information into written work selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

Language

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
- Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level.

What is the Common Core?

Common Core State Standards Initiative developed in 2013 by the National Governor’s Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State Officers:

- Provides a clear set of educational standards for educators to help students meet
- Outlines major subject areas and skills the student is to develop using the specific curriculum provided at the state level
- Centers around language and mathematical literacy, analysis and problem-solving
- Is applicable across disciplines
- Requires a significant change in the type of content being read in the classroom
- Presents a shift toward non-fiction reading and analysis in all classrooms.
How does *Vocational Studies Complete* help meet Common Core State Standards?

*Vocational Studies Complete* provides access to:

- A vast collection of resources that have been vetted for **accuracy, quality, and relevance**.
- **Advanced search and retrieval options** to help students pinpoint relevant results
- **Diverse sources** — such as books, newspapers, popular magazines, trade publications, academic journals and almanacs – containing biographies, essays, case studies, company reports, market research reports, industry overviews, recipes, images and more.
- **Reading level indicators** (Lexile Measures) to simplify discovery of texts that match students’ reading abilities
- **Google Drive and Google Classroom integration**, allowing students and educators to quickly save and share content
- **Citation tool** to help students format bibliographic references

Sample Searches

1. For an assignment on career exploration, here are two suggested searches to show depth of content available:
   a. Search “healthcare careers”: get 17 results with a mix of content from magazines and books; filter by full text and yields 16 records.
   b. Search “automobile mechanics” + “careers”: get 70 results; filter by years 2015-2018 and get 17 records most from trade publications and all full text.

2. For a project-based learning exercise:
   a. Search “bridge construction” + “math*”: get 135 results
   b. Narrow by Subject to 6 records by selecting student-related content: Activity programs in education; Curriculum planning; Mathematics education; Student activities
   c. Suggested content:
      - AN 3710916 - A New Twist to Bridge and Tower Building
      - AN 57631841 - Bridges with Trigonometry Equals Engineering Achievement