



OKLAHOMA
CareerTech

CCD Counseling and Career Development

More Than a Transcript

Elevating
Students' Full
Potential for Life
After High School



First Things First



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Why This Session Matters



Students are entering a world where colleges, training programs, and employers seek more than grades—they want evidence of skills, experiences, and personal strengths. This session empowers educators to help students capture and communicate their full story. Participants will learn practical strategies for showcasing learners' abilities beyond a transcript to support smoother transitions and stronger postsecondary opportunities.

The Traditional Transcript Dilemma

What transcripts should show well

- Courses- Official Names/Numbers
- Grades- CT and Concurrent
- Credits- Amount, Type?
- Certifications

What transcripts usually miss

- Skills
- Experiences
- Leadership

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT (Grades 9-12)

Graduation Date: 05/30/2013

School of Record
Sample School Name
Sample Parent
1234 Town Road
Anywhere, VA 22345
123-456-7890
info@fasttranscripts.com

Student Information
Sample Student
Gender: M
Date of Birth: 12/08/1995
1234 Town Road
Anywhere, VA 22345
123-456-7890
info@fasttranscripts.com



Course Study - Grade 9	Grade	Credits
Lit / Composition	A	1
Algebra 1	A	1
Physical Science	B	1
Geography	B	1
Spanish 1	C	1
Physical Ed	PASS	.5
Health	B	.5
Instrumental Music	A	.5
GPA = 3.25		6.5

Course Study - Grade 10	Grade	Credits
World Literature	A	1
Geometry	B	1
Biology / Lab	B	1
World History	A	1
Spanish 2	B	1
Physical Ed	PASS	.5
Choir	A	.5
GPA = 3.45		6

Course Study - Grade 11	Grade	Credits
American Literature	A	1
Algebra 2	A	1
United States History	A	1
Chemistry / Lab	B	1
Spanish 101*	B	1
Computer Applications	A	.5
Logic	B	1
GPA = 3.54		6.5

Course Study - Grade 12	Grade	Credits
AP: English Language	B	1
Pre-Calculus	B	1
Physics	A	1
United States Government	A	.5
Economics	A	.5
Debate	B	1
Financial Management	A	1
GPA = 3.67		6

Summary By Grade				
Grade	9th	10th	11th	12th
Cum. GPA	3.25	3.35	3.42	3.48
Credits Earned	6.5	6	6.5	6

Cumulative Summary (9th - 12th)			
Total Credits	GPA Credits	GPA Points	GPA
25.00	24.00	83.50	3.48

Grading Scale				
90 - 100	80 - 89	70 - 79	60 - 69	0 - 59
A	B	C	D	F

Authorized Signature _____ Date: 01/27/2014

Commentary
*ACE Community College



What a Transcript Cannot Capture

- Skills

- What did the student actually learn to do?

- Leadership

- How have they grown from the skills and experiences?

- Experiences

- What can they do with the academics they learned?



Experiences that tell the story

A student's story can include:

- **Certifications and Credentials**

Name of Test, Date Taken, Location Taken

- **CTSO Involvement**

- Builds leadership capacity
- Strengthens employability skills
- Fosters character and resilience

- **Work-Based Learning Experiences**

- **Internships**

- **Capstone Projects**

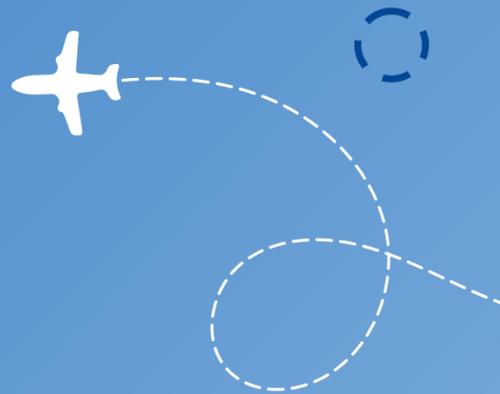
Students who participate in CTSOs demonstrate higher levels of academic engagement and motivation, civic engagement, career self-efficacy and employability skills than other students. - ACTE



Teaching Students to Tell Their Stories

School Experience	Employer Language
Group Project	Team Collaboration
Presentation	Public Speaking
Student Leadership	Initiative

Students often just need help translating what they do everyday into employer-focused language!



Defining the “Whole Student”

- Mental Health → Executive Functioning
- Academics → Working memory + Time Management + Organization
- Real-World Experiences → Metacognition + Sustained Attention
- Employability Skills → Emotional Regulation + Self-Control

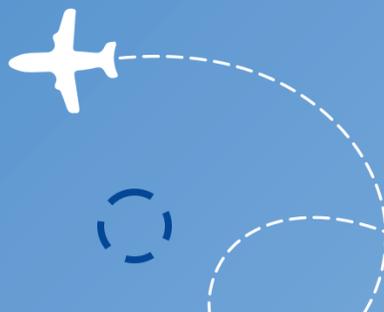


Hope

Students with higher hope scores do better in school, have more developed social and emotional skills, and foster stronger connections with their peers.



When we elevate the whole student, we are strengthening the brain systems that allow them to sustain success and not just achieve it.



Roles in the Process

Teachers

- Embedding reflections into assignments
- Encouraging documentation early and often

Counselors

- Creating intentional opportunities
- Aligning instruction, counseling, and WBL

Administrators

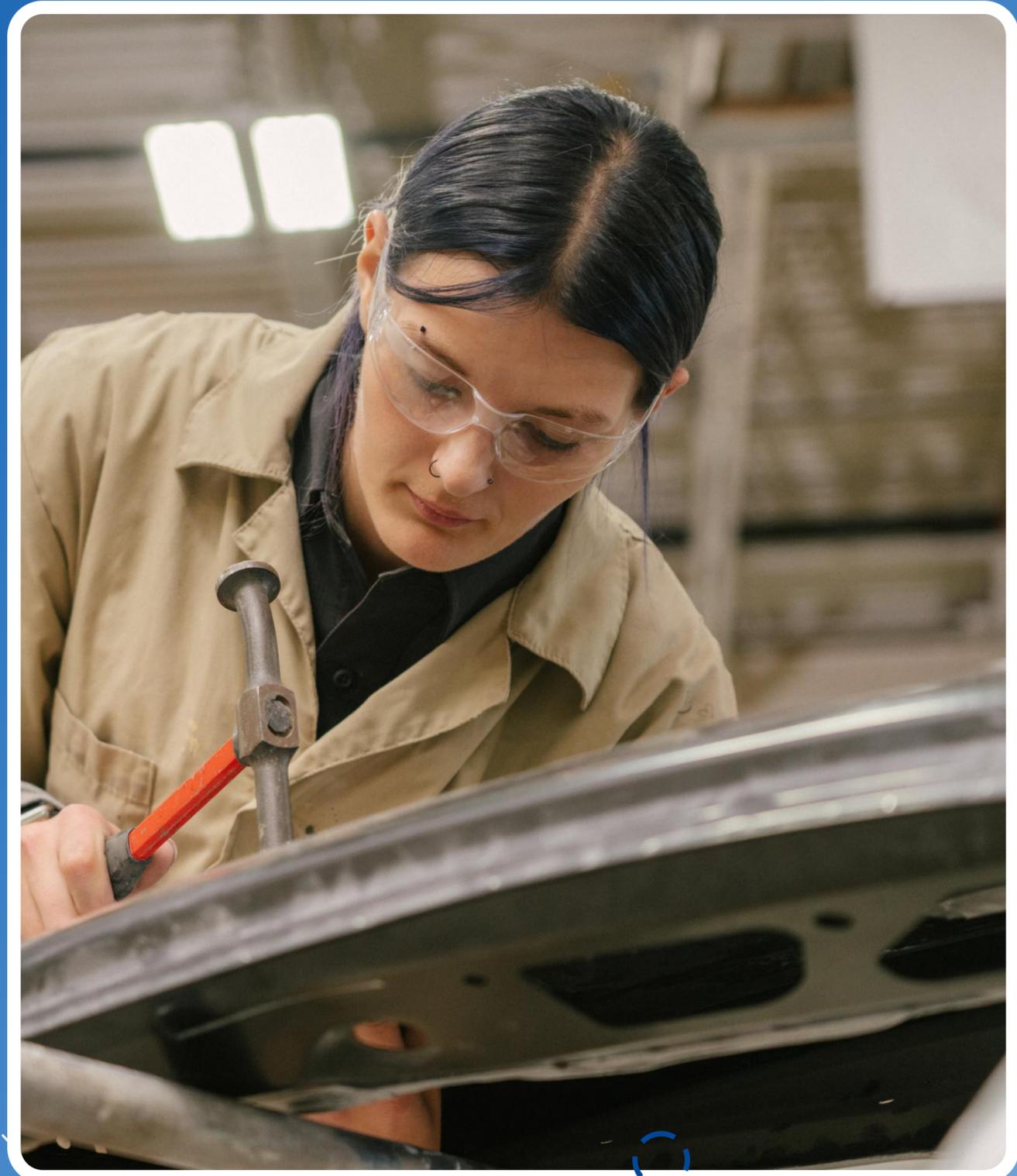
- Shifting School Culture
 - Moving beyond compliance
 - Valuing experiences alongside academics
 - Partnering with business and postsecondary institutions



Capturing Student Stories

My senior year internship taught me about a whole side of agriculture I didn't know existed. It taught me why Agriculture as an industry is important. Shadowing the workers and seeing how they accomplished their job responsibilities in the office, field, or simply working on their own, taught me that everyone works differently. I have learned that each job title is very different in its everyday tasks, and that communication is key, whether you are working with a producer or working with a coworker. Communication makes everything run smoothly and gets things done more efficiently.

Mak, Class of 2019



Teaching Students to Tell Their Stories

- Self-advocacy
 - Taking the responsibility for telling people what you want and need in a straightforward way. It is knowing how to:
 - describe your strengths, accomplishments and goals.
 - Self-advocacy is not just a “soft skill” - it is a career acceleration skill! Students who can advocate for themselves do not just find jobs - they find *better fit* careers.

Teaching students how to tell their story through self-advocacy moves them from:



“I hope someone gives me a chance”



“I’m prepared, I know my strengths and I can communicate my value.”



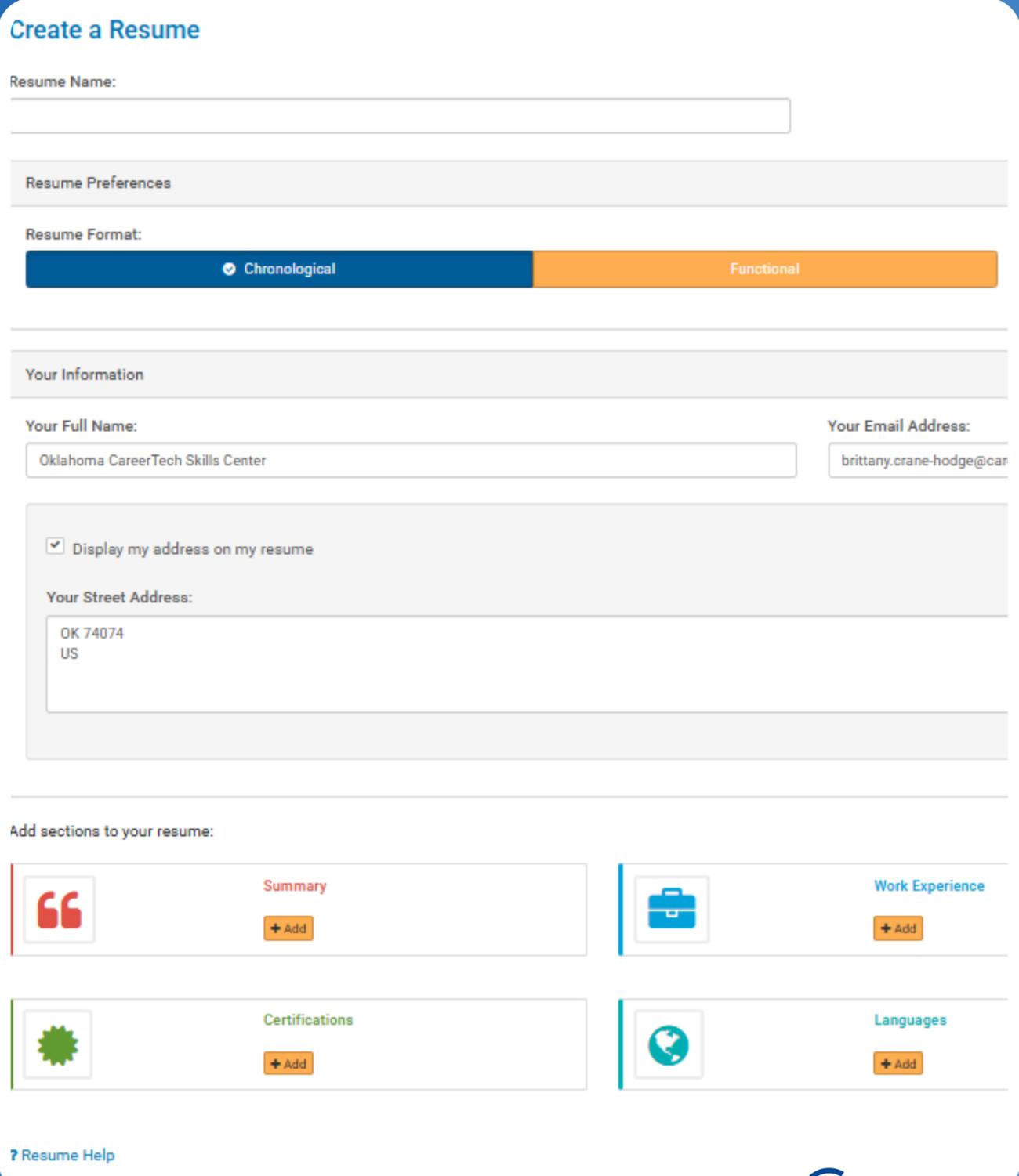
Teaching Students to Tell Their Stories

- Shifting Mindset
 - Employers don't just hire education and skills. They hire stories of growth, problem-solving and impact.
- Many students think:
 - “I don't have experience” or “I just go to school”
- Our job is to help them see:
 - School = project management
 - Athletics= teamwork + accountability
 - Volunteering = service + reliability
 - Family Responsibilities = leadership + maturity



Tools That Go Beyond the Transcript

- OkCareerGuide
 - Resume/Cover Letter Builder
- Career Pathway Documentation
- Learner Portfolios
 - Portfolios are a great way for students to prove their readiness beyond grades
 - Resume
 - Certifications
 - Work Samples
 - Reflections
 - Leadership Evidence
 - Career Goals
- Digital Badging
 - Competency Testing



Create a Resume

Resume Name:

Resume Preferences

Resume Format:
 Chronological Functional

Your Information

Your Full Name: Your Email Address:

Display my address on my resume

Your Street Address:

Add sections to your resume:

 Summary + Add	 Work Experience + Add
 Certifications + Add	 Languages + Add

[? Resume Help](#)



Small Steps, Big Impact

Motivational Interviewing (MI)

Thoughtfully encourages students to explore their own motivations for change or exploration instead of being directed by someone else.

For

- **Students** deeper reflection
- Supports autonomy in decision making
- Helps students express values and priorities
- Builds confidence!

For

- **Counselors** building rapport quickly without pressure
- Shifts conversations from directive to collaborative
- Helps counselors understand the deeper issues behind decisions
- Supports intentional and confident decision making

Common challenges MI helps to address:

- Difficulty articulating goals
- Ambivalence between multiple choices
- Low confidence in personal strengths
- Pressure to choose quickly
- Limited time in advising sessions

[Kude](#)



Outcomes for Students

- When students rely on transcripts, they're saying:
 - *"Judge me by my grades"*
- When students rely on skills and experience, they're saying:
 - *"Judge me by my value"*

Eight Strong, Measurable outcomes:

1. Increased Interview Confidence
2. Higher Employability
3. Stronger Career Fit
4. Improved Networking Skills
5. Growth Mindset
6. Competitive Edge
7. Stronger Professional Identity
8. Increased Access to Career Pathways



Wrap-up

- While transcripts provide a snapshot of academic performance, they do not fully capture student success. They mainly reflect classroom grades and often overlook important skills such as communication, problem-solving, adaptability, leadership, and resilience. Transcripts also rarely show work experience, certifications, community involvement, family responsibilities, or hands-on learning experiences.
- In today's skills-focused workforce, employers value demonstrated abilities and real-world experience in addition to grades and course titles. To better understand student potential, we must look beyond transcripts and focus on the skills students develop, the experiences they gain, and how they apply them in college, career, and life.



Contact Us!



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