The Virginia Education Wizard has been developed to help students and potential students explore careers, find college majors, estimate and compare college costs, find and apply for financial aid and scholarships, plan their transfer from community colleges to four-year institutions and apply for admission to community colleges.

To access the Wizard, go to: www.VaWizard.org.

Start by selecting the link at the top right of the webpage to Create an Account. Community college students and personnel already have accounts in the Wizard and may Login to accounts using their MyVCCS account credentials.

The Wizard contains a number of powerful tools aimed at helping users find careers, find education that leads to careers, pay for college and much more. Explore all of the Wizard’s functions by selecting on the main subjects on the navigation bar (pictured below) which appears on the top of each webpage.

By starting in the Careers section of the Wizard, complete an Interest Assessment or Values Assessment and then review occupations that match your interest or values type. The occupations matching your interest type and values type are tabbed by the amount of education required. The Wizard will default to displaying occupations requiring two years of education beyond high school. You may select on the education tabs to see occupations, which match your interest or values type, requiring more or less education.

Select on occupations listed in the assessment results that interest you to receive an Occupation Profile (pictured at right). It contains: (1) a Brief Description of the occupation and in some instances a link to a video about the occupation, (2) information on What Kind of Education is needed and the appropriate Major at a community college (if the occupation requires education beyond high school) that leads to the occupation profiled, (3) data on How Much Money you can expect to make in your region, and (4) a chart depicting the projected demand for this occupation over the next five years in your region. In addition, and not pictured here, the Occupation Profile contains the top 10 largest Employers for the occupation in your region, a list of Alternative Occupations and the Skills and Work Attributes needed.
In addition to the Careers section, the Wizard offers additional resources that aid in career and college planning. Explore the Programs and Majors section of the Wizard to search for educational offerings from any Virginia Community College.

Next, check out the Paying for College section to compare the cost of colleges and university throughout the Commonwealth (pictured at right), calculate potential transfer savings accumulated by starting a baccalaureate degree at a Virginia Community College, create a user-specific and college-specific financial aid award estimate, search a database of more than 800 scholarships awarded to Virginia Community College students, and even receive help on completing financial aid forms.

The Wizard’s Transfer Section allows users planning to obtain a baccalaureate degree to search the complete set of Guaranteed Admission Agreements that exist between Virginia’s Community Colleges and more than 25 public and private colleges and universities across Virginia (pictured at left), search among hundreds of program-specific agreements that have been formed between individual community colleges and other institutions, and create a personalized transfer plan.

Be sure to review your profile by selecting the Profile link in the top right corner of any webpage within the Wizard. The profile (pictured at left) contains any careers, majors, colleges, and transfer agreements that you have added while using the Wizard. It may also contain information on your estimated costs and award package. Select on your Full Profile to add colleges that interest you and view your career assessment results, transfer plans, and any scholarships you may have added to your profile while using the Wizard.

Are you ready to apply? The Apply Now section of the Wizard allows users to apply for admission to any Virginia Community College. Users simply select the college to which they wish to apply and then begin the free application process.

Return to the Wizard as often as you like and login using your username and password.