



Empowering students to thrive in an evolving world

Transformational Learning Experience

Project Lead The Way is a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for K-12 students and teachers across the U.S. We create an engaging environment and empower students to develop in-demand knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in an evolving world.

Through our pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, students learn problem-solving strategies, critical and creative thinking, and how to communicate and collaborate. Students apply knowledge from a variety of disciplines as they engage in hands-on activities, projects, and problems reflective of real-world scenarios and careers.

Unmatched Professional Development

Teachers play an immeasurable role in empowering students to lead their own learning. We strive to be a trusted partner in this effort. Our goal is to provide teachers with the support and resources they need to devote more time to inspiring students.

Through PLTW professional development, teachers are quickly immersed in the PLTW approach and empowered to bring the curriculum to life in their classrooms. Whether it's our three-day PLTW Launch training or our two-week high school training, we're preparing teachers with the skills and tools they need to inspire students. PLTW professional development sparks a renewed enthusiasm for teaching and provides a network of colleagues willing to help any time.

In-demand Skills for Any Path Students Choose

PLTW makes a positive impact on student motivation and achievement, high school and college attainment, and career interest in fields related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). In fact, a study has shown that PLTW high school graduates are nearly three times as likely to major in STEM versus non-PLTW graduates¹. A study has also found that PLTW students in Texas scored higher on the state's mathematics assessment and were more prepared for higher education institutions in the state². PLTW prepares students to make a lasting difference in their communities and companies.

¹ Pike, Gary and Kirsten Robbins (2014). Using Propensity Scores to Evaluate Education Programs. Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis.

² Van Overschelde, James P. (Spring 2013). Project Lead The Way Students More Prepared For Higher Education. Texas State University. American Journal of Engineering Education, 4(1).

Inspiring students to question what's possible

PLTW Programs for K-12

PLTW Launch (K-5) taps into students' exploratory nature, engages them in learning that feels like play, and encourages them to keep discovering – now and for years to come. Whether designing a car safety belt or building digital animations, students engage in critical and creative thinking, build teamwork skills, and learn to try and try again when faced with challenges. This program has 24 interdisciplinary 10-hour modules.

PLTW Gateway (6-8) illuminates the range of paths and possibilities students can look forward to in high school and beyond. Students apply knowledge and skill from a variety of disciplines, including all three PLTW pathways, in the program's nine-week units. Tackling challenges like designing tires for a moon rover, cleaning up an oil spill, or solving a medical mystery, students learn to test their limits and connect what they learn in the classroom to making a real-world impact.

PLTW Computer Science (9-12) engages students in real-world activities like creating an online art portal or using automation to process and analyze DNA-sequence data. These projects illustrate how intricately computer science is woven into our society, challenge students to apply computational thinking and logic to solve big problems, and transform students into builders of tech. This program includes multiple one-year courses.

PLTW Engineering (9-12) engages students in collaborative, real-world activities like working with a client to design a home, programming electronic devices or robotic arms, or exploring algae as a biofuel source. By pushing themselves to rework and refine their projects, students learn that both failed attempts and perseverance are key to learning and innovation. This program includes multiple one-year courses.

PLTW Biomedical Science (9-12) students step into the roles of medical investigators, surgeons, and biomedical engineers. The program's collaborative, hands-on explorations inspire students to make an impact on the lives of those around them, while preparing them with the know-how and experience to make their ideas a reality. This program includes multiple one-year courses.

For course details and standards alignment, visit pltw.org.

