Introduction

The “FCS Career Pathway Competency Profile” was developed to provide instructors with a tool for assessment/evaluation of a student’s progress and mastery level of the standards in the Capstone Course that completes a Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) career pathway consisting of a coherent sequence of courses. The evaluation, when recorded on the profile, will assist instructors in communicating to a student and to employers the level of knowledge and skills attained by a student upon completion of the FCSRO Career Pathway Program.

Standards-based Competencies

The career pathway standards for the FCS programs are comprised of anchor standards and pathway standards. The anchor standards are those that all students need to master to be successful in the career technical education curriculum and in the workplace. The pathway standards are concise statements that reflect the essential knowledge and skills students are expected to master to be successful in the career pathway, enter the job market and/or transition to postsecondary programs for additional preparation. There are two levels of detail in these standards: standards and subcomponents. The standards are general expectations of what students should know and be able to do. The subcomponents elaborate on the specific knowledge and skills encompassed by the standard.

The FCS career pathway standards were revised and updated by teachers and administrators as well as business and industry representatives to reflect the technical knowledge and skills needed in each pathway within the FCS industry sectors. The FCS anchor and pathway standards can be found in the document California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards, under the following three industry sectors: Education, Child Development, and Family Services; Fashion and Interior Design; and Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation.

How to Use the FCSRO Career Pathway Competency Profile

The cover page provides space for personal information, education and training, work site/on-the-job training/work experience, acknowledgement of successful completion of the career pathway program, postsecondary education follow-up record, and employment status. The instructor and student should work together to complete this information and update it on a regular basis.

The evaluation of a student’s progress and mastery level of the standards would ideally be completed at appropriate intervals in conference with instructors, the student, and an industry advisory committee member or work-site personnel. Each of the subcomponents listed under the standard should be reviewed for each level of instruction in a career pathway program and the appropriate box should be checked to indicate the degree of mastery. The rating for each subcomponent of a standard should reflect the student’s attainment of the skills and knowledge rather than a grade that may be given in the class or program. The rating scale follows:

- **A = Advanced** Demonstrates superior knowledge and skills; can work independently with no supervision.
- **P = Proficient** Demonstrates proficient knowledge and skills; can work with limited supervision.
- **B = Basic** Demonstrates minimal knowledge and skills; requires instruction and close supervision.
- **L = Limited** Shows little or no knowledge or skill in this area.

The “FCS Career Pathway Competency Profile” is to be kept in the site’s program file to be accessible for use, as needed, by instructors to review attainment of knowledge and skills as well as training needs with students and work-site personnel; to plan further instruction or individual support, if needed; for follow-up reporting; and for letters of recommendation. Upon completion of the career pathway program, students should place a copy of the “FCS Career Pathway Competency Profile” in their portfolio for future training, education, or employment and a copy should also be retained in department/program files for future reference.