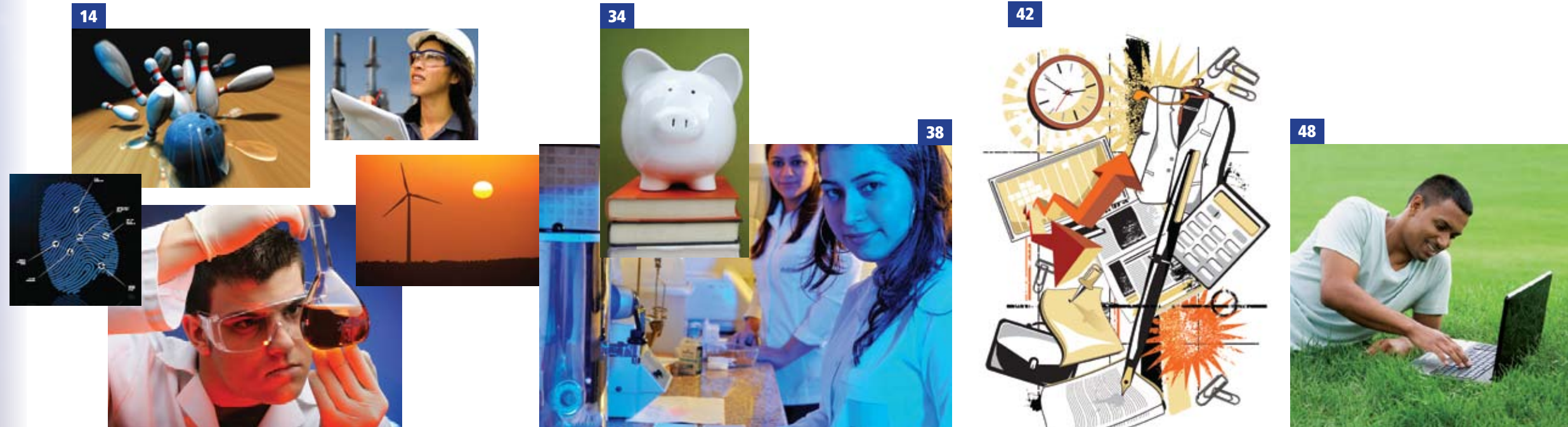




# A GUIDE TO GOALS AFTER GRADUATION



**Page 4 | Do You Have What It Takes?**

Take this quick quiz to start figuring out if STEM is the right field for you. Answer “yes” or “no” to the 10 questions...Career Assessments and Research Resources

**MEET A STEM STUDENT**

Six STEM Student Profiles on pages 6, 13, 27, 31, 37, and 45

**Page 7 | STEM Careers**

If you think that STEM is only for math and science whizzes, think again...Where the Jobs Are: Hot Sectors in STEM... 15 Hot STEM Careers

- **WHY TECHIES GET THE BIG BUCKS**...A spotlight on some of the most popular high-tech innovations and most successful STEM professionals of our time
- **GO GREEN**...How STEM professionals help make the world greener and cleaner
- **STEM IS FOR EVERYONE**...The growing demand for STEM professionals means that now is the ideal time for women and minority members to build careers in STEM fields

**SPECIAL SECTION**

**Page 14 | 25 STEM Careers**

Explore ideas for more than two dozen jobs that span the different levels of education required to enter a STEM profession...Career Profiles: 25 Snapshots of STEM Professions, Including Education Required, Wages Paid, and Employment Outlook

■ **STEM EDUCATION**...Learn how to move from high school to a successful STEM career

**STEM • STATE BY STATE**

Spread throughout the Publication...51 examples

**SPECIAL INFO**

of innovative postsecondary STEM programs—one from each state and the District of Columbia

■ **ALL ABOUT CAREER CLUSTERS**...

Find out how the 16 federal career clusters connect what you learn in the classroom to the real world

■ **SPECIAL STEM PROGRAMS**...Take advantage of any of these STEM-related learning experiences that may be available in your school or district

■ **DOCUMENTING YOUR EDUCATION**...Learn how creating a plan and a portfolio will help you get ready for college and a career

**Page 32 | STEM After High School**

Almost every STEM profession requires a two- or four-year college degree or another kind of postsecondary education...STEM Stepladder of Postsecondary Options...College Application Checklist...Top Engineering Colleges

**Page 34 | Paying for Your Education**

The lowdown on financial aid and other ways to afford your postsecondary STEM education...Cutting College Costs...STEM Scholarships...FAFSA: The Key to Financial Aid...Earning Education and Skills Through the Military

**Page 36 | Choosing a STEM School**

When it comes to selecting a two- or four-year STEM program, it's smart to get your parents or guardian involved and take tours of schools...Talking to Your Parents...Touring Colleges

**Page 38 | STEM for Fun**

Check out these STEM learning experiences where you can explore careers, build skills, and discover if STEM is the right field for you

**Page 42 | Reality Check**

An overview of the costs you will need to consider when planning life on your own...As You Start Dreaming...What it Costs to Live on Your Own...What it Costs to Live Where You Want to Live...Repaying Student Loans

**Page 44 | Bosses Speak**

Listen to what employers say about the need for STEM employees



**Page 46 | The House That STEM Built**

Take a look inside this high-tech house to see some of the current and future innovations designed, built, and installed by STEM professionals with a variety of STEM skills

**Page 48 | Explore More**

Use these websites and other STEM career and education resources available from your school counselor or online to help you design the future of your dreams