ProStart is a national career-building two-year program for high school students who are interested in culinary arts and foodservice management. Whether students are looking to enter the job market directly after graduating, or if they plan to attend college, a ProStart graduate makes a solid candidate for success. ProStart develops the best and brightest talent into tomorrow’s industry leaders. ProStart’s industry driven curriculum provides real-world educational opportunities and builds practical skills and a foundation that will last a lifetime.

ProStart students receive classroom training, mentored work experience, marketable job skills and access to college scholarships. By bringing industry and the classroom together, ProStart gives students a platform to discover new interests and talents and opens doors for fulfilling careers. It all happens through a curriculum that teaches all facets of the restaurant and foodservice industry, inspires students to succeed and sets a high standard of excellence for students and the industry.

With national and local support from industry members, educators, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation and state restaurant associations, ProStart reaches 140,000 students nationwide. Currently, there are approximately 5,500 ProStart students in 100 high schools and technical centers in the state who participate making Missouri one of the largest ProStart programs in the country.

Many students have a new-found interest in high school and are applying themselves academically in other classes in order to be a part of the two-year restaurant management and culinary arts program. The Missouri ProStart program is inspiring a new generation of talent, which will build the Missouri restaurant industry through real world education combined with classroom curriculum relevant to today’s evolving foodservice industry.

To become an approved Missouri ProStart program please contact your Missouri ProStart Coordinators.

John LaRocca - Missouri ProStart Coordinator
jilarocca@morestaurants.org

Leone Herring - Missouri ProStart Coordinator
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“I continue to be inspired by the power of ProStart, our two-year career-building program for high school students interested in culinary arts and restaurant management.”

Dawn Sweeney, President and CEO, National Restaurant Association

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Receiving feedback from professional chefs serving as floor judges for the culinary competition while parents and other program supporters listen in.