# **PaCE**

## Illinois PaCE Postsecondary and Career Expectations

Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions about career and post-secondary (PS) education or training, to plan a course of study, and to make financial aid assessments with family members.



## By the end of 8th grade

## A student should be supported to:

- o complete a career cluster survey
- attend a career exploration day
- complete a unit on education planning
- be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop

### A student should know:

- the concept of career clusters of interest
- relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and postsecondary (PS)/career goals



## By the end of 9th grade

### A student should be supported to:

- revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey
- complete an orientation to career clusters
- attend a PS options workshop
- meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and PS/career plans using the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators
- begin determining eligibility for advanced placement (AP) courses
- outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- complete a financial aid assessment with a family member

#### A student should know:

- one or two career clusters for further exploration and development
- the relationship between HS cousework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
- importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans
- general cost ranges of various PS options

## By the end of 10th grade

## A student should be supported to:

- visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests
- complete an orientation course to a particular career cluster or cluster grouping
- select a career pathway (CP) within a career cluster of interest
- begin determining eligibility for AP courses
- identify 2-3 adults to support the student through the PS and career selection process
- review coursework, and PS/career plans in relation to the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (every year)
- attend a PS affordability workshop with a family member

## A student should know:

- educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected CP
- different types of PS credentials and institutions
- general timing of PS entrance exams and applications
- benefit of early college credit opportunities to PS access and completion

## By the end of 11th grade

## A student should be supported to: o revisit the career survey

- o participate in a mock job interview
- participate in a mock job interview
- create a resume and personal statement
- identify an internship opportunity related to the CP
- determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course
- complete or enroll in at least one early college credit opportunity
- attend a college fair
- visit at least 3 PS institutions
- take at least one college entrance exam

#### A student should know:

- application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for CP
- career attributes related to career interests
- entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected PS programs of study
- 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study
- negative impact of remediation on PS goals
- financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options

## By the end of 12th grade

## By 12/31 of 12th grade a student should have:

- completed 3 or more admissions applications to PS institutions
- met with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the PS admissions process are completed on time
- attended a FAFSA completion workshop
- completed the FAFSA

## By the end of 12th grade a student should be supported to:

- address any remedial needs in math/FI A
- obtain an internship opportunity related to the CP
- if applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) related to the CP
- complete one or more team-based challenges or projects related to the CP
- attend a financial aid award letter workshop

### A student should know:

- how CP courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS options
- estimated cost of each PS option
- affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan

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