



Glenbard West High School

By the end of 9th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Begin determining eligibility for advanced placement (AP) courses
- Identify 2-3 adults to support the student through the postsecondary and career selection process
- Understand the job application process and terms
- Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in high school
- Complete a career cluster survey
- Develop public speaking skills
- Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college

A student should know:

- The general timing of postsecondary entrance exams
- The relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans
- The concept of career clusters of interest
- Own learning style and how it relates to career interests
- One or two career clusters for further exploration and development

By the end of 10th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and PS/career plans using ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators
- Complete a college fit/match inventory
- Identify two related PS paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with assessment results
- Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice
- Select a career pathway within a career cluster of interest
- Complete an elective course to explore career interests
- Utilize technology to network outside own community
- Create a resume
- Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop
- Learn about debt and credit scores

A student should know:

- The different types of PS credentials and institutions
- Career attributes related to career interests
- Educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career clusters
- The process for determining the affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- How salary impacts standard of living
- General cost ranges of various PS institutions
- The difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help student financial aid programs
- Know where to find scholarship opportunities

By the end of 11th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Attend a college fair
- Meet with a college representative
- Meet with a school counselor to track progress and/or revise PS plans
- Take at least one college entrance exam
- Understand the college placement process
- Visit at least 3 PS institutions
- Participate in college entrance exam preparation courses
- Interview a professional who is working in desired field
- Revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey
- Revisit the career survey
- Create a personal statement
- Attend a PS affordability workshop with a family member
- Create a plan and timeline for financial aid process
- Complete a financial aid assessment with a family member
- Outline a plan to pay for college

A student should know:

- 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study
- The general timing of PS applications
- Entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected PS programs of study
- How career pathways courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS options
- Application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for career pathways
- Estimated cost of each PS option
- The affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry level career salary and anticipated debt

By the end of 12th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Show evidence of PS plan
- Secure letters of recommendation for college and scholarship applications
- Participate in a job shadowing opportunity
- Attend a financial aid award letter workshop
- Explore the opportunity costs of PS choices
- Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process

A student should know:

- 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study
- The terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan
- Financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options

By 12/31, a student should have:

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



Postsecondary and Career Expectations

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