

District 86 Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE Framework)

By the end of Freshman Year	By the end of Sophomore Year	By the end of Junior Year	By the end of Senior Year
A student should be supported to: • Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college • Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans • Connect and build relationships with 2-3 adults to support the postsecondary and career selection process (all grades) • Complete a career cluster and interest survey A student should know: • Importance of community service and extracurricular activities to postsecondary and career plans • Relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans • Know skills related to career interests • Students identify a career cluster and career goal	A student should be supported to: • Explore opportunity costs of postsecondary choices • Research internships/ Apprenticeships that offer scholarships or opportunities to earn money • Understand W-4s, pay stubs, and income taxes • Understand various aspects of personal banking • Participate in activities related to career cluster of interest • Compare and contrast career options of interest • Learn about employer expectations and employability skills A student should know: • How salary impacts standard of living • General timing of postsecondary entrance exams • How career pathway courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at postsecondary options • Educational requirements, costs, expected entry-level and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career pathway	A student should be supported to: • Attend a basic financial aid presentation with a trusted adult • Understand the timeline of the financial aid process • Identify teachers to ask for letters of recommendation during the postsecondary application process • Attend a college fair • Meet with a postsecondary admissions representative • Complete a college fit/match inventory • Complete a lesson on educational planning • Identify two related postsecondary paths/ college majors related to career area of interest A student should know: • Financial aid information for chosen postsecondary options • General cost ranges of various postsecondary options • Three to five match schools, one safety, and one reach school for postsecondary programs of study • Entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected postsecondary programs of study • Different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions	A student should be supported to: • Complete a financial aid application • Create a plan to pay for college using available financial resources • Understand how to be a responsible borrower • Understand the student loan process and available loan options • Secure letters of recommendations for college and scholarship applications • By 12/31, complete 3 or more admissions applications to postsecondary institutions • By 12/31, ensure all steps in the postsecondary admissions process are completed on time • Create a resume and personal statement • Understand the job application process for desired fields A student should know: • How to find scholarship opportunities • The difference between need-based, merit-based, and self help financial aid • Estimated cost of chosen postsecondary options • Learn about financial wellness (all grades) • Affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt



Experiences To Explore Throughout High School

- ✓ Enroll as appropriate in early college credit classes
- ✓ Select coursework for postsecondary /career plans with ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators
- ✓ Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in "catch up" courses
- ✓ Visit at least 3 postsecondary institutions
- ✓ Attend a career exploration day, presentation, activity, etc., (all grades)
- ✓ Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in high school
- ✓ Complete an elective course to explore career interests
- ✓ Opportunity to participate in work-based learning continuum activities (shadowing, internship, etc.)
- ✓ General timing of postsecondary applications