Mundelein High School

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.



By the end of 8th grade

A student should be supported to:

- · Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- Learn about financial wellness
- Complete a career cluster survey
- Complete an orientation to career clusters
- Participate in an opportunity to develop public speaking skills
- · Address any remedial needs in math/ELA

A student should know:

- How salary impacts standard of living
- The concept of career clusters of A student should know: interest



By the end of 9th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- Revisit career cluster interests
- Select a career pathway within a career cluster of interest
- Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in high school
- Learn about employer expectations and employability skills
- Identity 2-3 adults to support the students through the PS and career selection process
- Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- Begin determining eligibility for advanced placement courses

- How to find scholarship opportunities
- General cost ranges of various PS institutions
- The relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and PS/career goals
- Entrance requirements for expected PS programs of study
- The relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
 - Career Exploration and Development

By the end of 10th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course of workshop
- Understand the various aspects of personal banking
- Understand how to be a responsible borrower
- Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop
- Revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey
- Complete an elective course to explore career interests
- · Identify two related PS paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with career cluster survey results
- Attend a PS options workshop
- Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course

A student should know:

- Estimated cost of each PS option
- The affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- Educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint, salary in selected career clusters
- The different types of PS credentials and institutions

By the end of 11th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Create a plan to pay for college using financial resources
- Understand timeline for financial aid process
- Revisit career cluster interests
- Create a resume and personal statement
- Participate in mock job interview
- Interview a professional who is working in desired field
- Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice
- Meet with a college admissions representative
- Connect to a mentor to support the student through the PS and career selection process in their chosen path

A student should know:

- The difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help financial aid
- 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study

By the end of 12th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Attend a financial aid offer workshop
- Understand the student loan process and available loan options
- Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process
- Revisit career cluster interests
- Participate in a job shadowing opportunity
- Utilize virtual platforms for professional networking
- Understand the job application process for desired fields
- Participate in an opportunity to develop public speaking skills
- Meet with a school counselor to ensure that all steps in the PS admissions process are completed on time
- Understand the college placement process
- · Secure letters of recommendations for college and scholarship applications
- Visit at least 3 PS institutions

A student should know:

- Financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options
- The terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan

By 12/31, a student should have:

- Attended a financial aid application completion workshop
- Completed the FAFSA (or other financial aid application)
- · Completed 3 or more admissions applications to PS institutions

Financial Aid and Literacy

Post-Secondary Education Exploration, Preparation, and Selection