



# U-46 School District

## 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 9th grade	By the end of 10th grade	By the end of 11th grade	By the end of 12th grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete an elective course to explore career interests</li> <li>• Attend a career exploration day, activity, or presentation</li> <li>• Know skills related to career interests</li> <li>• Know how career pathway courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at postsecondary options</li> <li>• Know one or two careers for further exploration</li> <li>• Complete a career interest survey</li> <li>• Complete a unit on education planning</li> <li>• Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>• Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans</li> <li>• Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>• Know the relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans</li> <li>• Understand the various aspects of personal banking</li> <li>• Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college</li> <li>• Know how salary impacts standard of living</li> <li>• Learn about financial wellness</li> <li>• Understand how to be a responsible borrower</li> <li>• Understand W-4s, pay stubs, and income taxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupation in selected career pathway</li> <li>• Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with career area of interest</li> <li>• Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in high school</li> <li>• Attend a college fair</li> <li>• Connect and build relationships with 2-3 adults to support the postsecondary and career selection process</li> <li>• Know different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions</li> <li>• Attend a postsecondary options workshop</li> <li>• Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>• Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>• Attend a basic financial aid presentation with a trusted adult</li> <li>• Know general cost ranges of various postsecondary options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a resume and personal statement</li> <li>• Participate in a mock job interview</li> <li>• Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests</li> <li>• Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice</li> <li>• Know entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected postsecondary programs of study</li> <li>• Complete a college fit/match inventory</li> <li>• Know 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for postsecondary program of study</li> <li>• Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>• Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>• Know how to find scholarship opportunities</li> <li>• Complete a Postsecondary Plan Workshop</li> <li>• Know affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in activities related to their career cluster of interest</li> <li>• By 12/31, Ensure all steps in the postsecondary admissions process are completed on time</li> <li>• By 12/31, Completed 3 or more admissions applications to postsecondary institutions</li> <li>• Visit at least 3 postsecondary institutions</li> <li>• Secure letters of recommendation for college and scholarship applications</li> <li>• Enroll as appropriate in early college credit courses</li> <li>• Select course work for postsecondary/career plans aligned with the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)</li> <li>• By 12/31, attended a financial aid application completion workshop</li> <li>• By 12/31, Completed a financial aid application</li> <li>• Know estimated cost of chosen postsecondary options</li> <li>• Understand the student loan process and available loan options</li> <li>• Know the difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help financial aid</li> <li>• Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process</li> </ul>