

## Illinois PaCE: Postsecondary and Career Expectations

### By the end of 8th grade

#### A student should be supported to:

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

#### A student should know:

- the concept of career clusters for further exploration
- possible career choices (based on survey)
- relationship between community service/ extracurricular activities and postsecondary (PS)/career goals

### By the end of 9th grade

#### A student should be supported to:

- revisit the career interest survey
- complete an orientation to career clusters
- attend a postsecondary (PS) options workshop
- meet with a counselor to discuss postsecondary/career plans
- begin determining eligibility for AP courses
- outline a plan for community service/ 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 coursework, 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 to 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
- identify 2-3 adults to support him/her through the college and career selection process
- discuss coursework with a counselor to determine that it is consistent with PS/career plans
- attend a college affordability workshop with adult 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 college entrance exams and apps
- benefit of early college credit opportunities to PS access and completion

### By the end of 11th grade

#### A student should be supported to:

- revisit the career survey
- participate in a mock job interview
- create a resume and personal statement
- identify an internship opportunity related to CP
- determine readiness for college-level coursework in Math/ELA and enrolled 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:

- app deadlines, test timing, cost, and prep for industry-based certification for CP
- career attributes related to career interests
- entrance requirements, including app deadlines, for expected PS program of study
- 3-5 match schools, one safety, and 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:

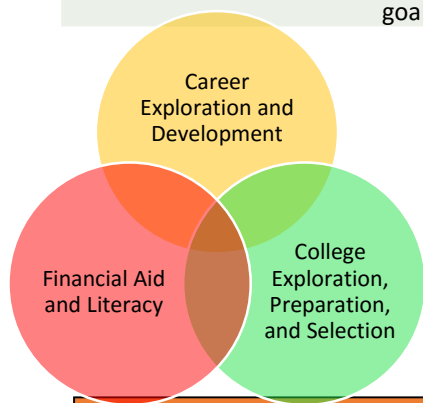
- completed at least 3 admission applications to PS institutions
- met with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the PS admission process are completed on time
- attended a FAFSA completion workshop
- completed the FAFSA

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

- obtain an internship opportunity relating to CP
- if applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) relating to CP
- complete one or more team-based challenges or projects relating to CP
- address any remedial needs in Math/ELA
- 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



Each student should have an individualized plan to help them make career and college decisions, plan a course of study, and make financial aid assessments with family members.