

United High School

Postsecondary and Career Expectations

Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions about career and post-secondary (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

A student will be supported to:

- revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey
- complete an orientation to career clusters
- attend a PS options workshop
- meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and PS/career plans using the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators
- begin determining eligibility for advanced placement (AP) courses
- outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- know one or two career clusters for further exploration and development
- understand the relationship between HS coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
- understand the importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans
- know general cost ranges of various PS options

BY THE END OF 10TH GRADE

A student will be supported to:

- visit at least one workplace aligned with 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
- begin determining eligibility for AP courses
- identify 2-3 adults to support the student through the PS and career selection process
- review coursework, and PS/career plans in relation to the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (every year)
- attend a PS affordability workshop with a family member
- understand educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected CP
- know different types of PS credentials and institutions
- know general timing of PS entrance exams and applications
- understand the benefit of early college credit opportunities to PS access and completion

BY THE END OF 11TH GRADE

A student will 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 the CP
- Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA by taking the SAT and enroll in remedial classes to improve skills, if needed
- Explore dual credit options
- Attend a college fair and visit at least 3 PS institutions
- Understand career attributes related to career interests
- Understand PS entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected PS programs of study
- Find 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study
- Go on a job shadow

BY THE END OF 12TH GRADE

A student will be supported to:

- Complete 3 or more admissions applications or job applications
- Meet with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the PS admissions process are completed on time
- Attend a FAFSA completion workshop
- Complete the FAFSA or sign a waiver by the end of 12th grade
- Address any remedial needs in math/ELA, or complete credit recovery to graduate on time
- Obtain an internship opportunity related to the CP or complete a job shadow
- If applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) related to the CP
- Complete one or more team-based challenges or projects related to the CP
- Learn how CP courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS options
- Understand estimated cost of PS options
- Affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary
- Anticipated debt terms and conditions of loans
- Complete at least three scholarship applications