



Gillespie High School

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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

A student should be supported to:

- Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and PS/career plans using ISBE College and Career Indicators (CCRIs)
- Understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- Complete an orientation to career clusters
- Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice

A student should know:

- The importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans
- The relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and PS goals
- The relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
- Own learning style and how it relates to career interests

By the end of 10th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Identify two related PS paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with assessment results
- Review coursework and PS/career plans in relation to the ISBE CCRIs
- Complete a financial aid assessment with a family member
- Complete a career cluster survey
- Participate in mock job interview
- Understand the job application process and terms
- Create a resume and personal statement

A student should know:

- The different types of PS credentials and institutions
- General cost ranges of various PS institutions
- The affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry level career salary and anticipated debt
- Estimated cost of each PS option
- Educational requirements, cost, and expected entry-level and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career clusters
- Career attributes related to career interests
- One or two career clusters for further exploration and development

By the end of 11th grade

A student should be supported to:

- 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 CCRIs
- Take at least one college entrance exam (ASVAB/SAT/ACT)
- Connect with a mentor
- Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course
- Attend a PS options workshop
- Attend a college fair
- Select a career pathway within a career cluster of interest
- Attend a workshop on employer expectations and employability skills
- Revisit career cluster interest and take a career interest survey
- Interview a professional who is working in desired field
- Develop public speaking skills

A student should know:

- General timing of PS entrance exams and applications
- How salary impacts standard of living
- Where to find scholarship opportunities
- Application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for career pathways

By the end of 12th grade

A student should be supported to:

- Show evidence of PS plan
 - Visit at least 3 PS institutions
 - Complete or enroll in at least one early college credit opportunity
 - Review coursework, and PS /career plans in relation to the ISBE CCRIs
 - Be exposed to financial literacy unit in a course or workshop
 - Prepare a budget
 - Understand different banking relations
 - Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process
 - Learn about savings and investments
 - Understand pay stubs, W-2s, and income taxes
 - Outline a plan to pay for college
 - Learn to protect themselves against identity theft
 - Learn about debit and credit scores
 - Participate in a job shadowing opportunity
 - Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests
 - Attend a career exploration day
- A student should know:**
- Entrance requirements, including application deadlines, for expected PS programs of study
 - The terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan
 - Financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options

By 12/31, a student should have:

- Completed 3 or more admissions applications to PS institutions
- Met with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the PS admissions are completed on time
- Completed the FAFSA
- Attended a FAFSA completion workshop