



Mt. Zion 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 8th grade	By the end of 9th grade	By the end of 10th grade	By the end of 11th grade	By the end of 12th grade
<p>A student should be supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop public speaking skills Attend a career exploration day Understand entrepreneurship Complete a career cluster survey Complete an orientation to career clusters Learn to protect themselves against identity theft Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and PS/career plans using ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRIs) <p>A student should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One or two career clusters for further exploration and development How career pathways courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS options How salary impacts standards of living The relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and PS/career goals 	<p>A student should be supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorize basic demographic information for resume/applications Complete a unit on education planning Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans <p>A student should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Own learning style and how it relates to career interests Career attributes related to career interests General cost ranges of various PS institutions The affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt The relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans The benefit of early college credit opportunities to PS access and completion Importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans 	<p>A student should be supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in mock job interview Revisit career cluster interest survey and make a career interest survey Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice Attend a workshop on employer expectations and employability skills Understand the job application process and terms Complete a financial aid assessment with a family member Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop Understand pay stubs, W-2s, and income taxes Understand different banking relations Learn about savings and investments Learn about debt and credit scores Explore the opportunity costs of PS choices Review coursework, and PS/career plans in relation to the ISBE CCRIs Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course <p>A student should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career clusters The different types of PS credentials and institutions The general timing of PS entrance exams and applications 	<p>A student should be supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests Create a resume and personal statement Complete a college fit/match inventory Attend a college fair Take at least one college entrance exam Meet with a school counselor to track progress and/or revise PS plans <p>A student should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help student financial aid programs Estimated cost of each PS option Financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options Where to find scholarship opportunities 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for PS program of study 	<p>A student should be supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in a job shadowing opportunity Complete a unit on employee benefits and retirement planning Complete a thorough scholarship search and application process Explore internships and apprenticeships for scholarships and money opportunities Prepare a budget Address any remedial needs in math/ELA Visit at least 3 PS institutions Understand the college placement process <p>A student should know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan <p>By 12/31, a student should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed 3 or more admissions applications to PS institutions Met with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the PS admissions process are completed on time Complete the FAFSA Attend a FAFSA completion workshop



- Career Exploration and Development
- Financial Aid and Literacy
- Post-Secondary Education Exploration, Preparation, and Selection