

Black Hawk Region Pathways

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend a career exploration day Complete a career cluster survey Know educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career pathway Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop Address any remedial needs in math/ELA** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know one or two career clusters for further exploration and development Know the relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans Know the benefit of early college credit opportunities to postsecondary access and completion Know relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and postsecondary goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice (e.g., student dislikes math but wants to be engineer). Revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey * Participate in mock job interview Learn about employer expectations and employability skills Know general cost ranges of various postsecondary options Research internships/apprenticeships that offer scholarships or money opportunities Understand how taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college Take at least one college entrance exam (e.g., Complete ASVAB/SAT/ACT or other exams necessary for postsecondary plans) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with career cluster survey results Know the difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help financial aid Know the affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt Know how salary impacts standard of living (e.g., reality check – will I be able to afford my style of life with my projected salary) Learn about financial wellness Understand W-4s, pay stubs, and income taxes Attend a postsecondary options workshop Complete a college fit/match inventory Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans using ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators* Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with assessment results (e.g., identify and be familiar with majors or paths related to assessment results from any college entrance exams, interest profilers, career cluster surveys, etc.) Know the different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests* Create a resume and personal statement Know how to find scholarship opportunities Know estimated cost of each postsecondary option Attend a college fair



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