East Alton-Wood River 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

A student should be supported to:

- attend 8th grade Parent Night/Open House
- attend Parent Outreach Program (POP)
- participate in Freshman Orientation
- attend Trucking into High School
- understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans

By the end of 9th grade

A student should be supported to:

- complete an orientation to career clusters
- compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice
- understand that taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans
- meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans using CCRIs

A student should know:

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

By the end of 10th grade

A student should be supported to:

- complete a career cluster survey
- participate in a mock job interview
- understand the job application process and terms
- create a resume and personal statement
- complete a financial aid assessment with a family member
- identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with assessment results
- review coursework and postsecondary/career plans in relation to CCRIs

A student should know:

- educational requirements, cost, and expected entry-level/midpoint salary for occupations in selected career clusters
- career attributes related to career interests
- one or two career clusters for further exploration and development
- general cost ranges of various postsecondary institutions
- affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- estimated cost of each postsecondary option
- different types of postsecondary

By the end of 11th grade

A student should be supported to:

- 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
- identify 2-3 adults to support the student through the postsecondary and career selection process
- review coursework and postsecondary/career plans in relation to CCRIs
- take at least one college entrance exam (ASVAB/SAT/ACT)
- determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA enrollment for "catch up"
- determine readiness for college-level coursework for dual credit courses
- attend a college fair

A student should know:

- application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for career pathways
- how salary impacts standard of living
- where to find scholarship opportunities
- general timing of postsecondary entrance exams and applications

By the end of 12th grade

A student should be supported to:

- participate in a job shadowing opportunity
- attend a career exploration day
- 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 debt and credit scores
- show evidence of postsecondary plan
- visit at least 1 postsecondary institution
- if applicable, receive industry-based certification related to career pathway
- review coursework and postsecondary/career plans in relation to CCRIs

A student should know:

- terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan
- financial aid deadlines for chosen

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