



Step 1: Take an Inventory

Career Exploration and Development Benchmarks

Instructions: Using the Illinois PaCE Framework, take an inventory to assess what is currently being done within the school or district. To get started, use the **Degree of Completion Scale** to report the percentage of students currently meeting each benchmark. Enter the corresponding number in the box next to each benchmark.

| Key | | Degree of Completion Scale | |
|-----|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CP | Career Pathway | 1 | Less than 25% of students |
| PS | Postsecondary | 2 | 26-50% of students |
| | | 3 | 51-75% of students |
| | | 4 | 76-99% of students |
| | | 5 | 100% of students |

| By end of 8 th grade | By end of 9 th grade | By end of 10 th grade | By end of 11 th grade | By end of 12 th grade |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| students should be supported to: | students should be supported to: | students should be supported to: | students should be supported to: | students should be supported to: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> complete a career cluster survey <input type="checkbox"/> attend a career exploration day | <input type="checkbox"/> revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey <input type="checkbox"/> complete an orientation to career clusters | <input type="checkbox"/> visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests <input type="checkbox"/> complete an orientation course to a particular career cluster or cluster grouping <input type="checkbox"/> select a CP within a career cluster of interest | <input type="checkbox"/> revisit the career survey <input type="checkbox"/> participate in a mock job interview <input type="checkbox"/> create a resume and personal statement <input type="checkbox"/> identify an internship opportunity related to the CP | <input type="checkbox"/> obtain an internship related to the CP <input type="checkbox"/> if applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) related to the CP <input type="checkbox"/> complete one or more team-based challenges or projects related to the CP |
| | | | | students should have: |
| | | | | N/A |
| students should know: | students should know: | students should know: | students should know: | students should know: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the concept of career clusters of interest | <input type="checkbox"/> one or two career clusters for further exploration and development | <input type="checkbox"/> educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected CP | <input type="checkbox"/> application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for CP <input type="checkbox"/> career attributes related to the career interests | <input type="checkbox"/> how CP courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at PS options |