

# The Fellowship Initiative- Youth Guidance

## 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 9th grade	By the end of 10th grade	By the end of 11th grade	By the end of 12th grade
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- Attend a College Fair
- Identify 2-3 adults to support the student through the postsecondary and career selection process
- Know the Importance of community service and extracurricular activities to postsecondary and career plans
- Know the relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans
- Begin determining eligibility for advanced placement (AP) courses
- Review coursework, and postsecondary/career plans in relation to the ISBE CCRI
- Participate in an opportunity to develop public speaking skills
- Attend a career exploration day
- Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in high school
- Understand how taking the right courses in high school can reduce the cost of college
- Be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop
- Learn about financial wellness

- Attend a postsecondary options workshop
- Complete a unit on education planning
- Know the general timing of postsecondary entrance exams and applications
- Connect with a mentor
- Know relationship between community service/extracurricular activities and postsecondary/career goals
- Outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to postsecondary plans
- Complete a college fit/match inventory
- Complete a career cluster survey
- Complete an orientation to career clusters
- Complete one or more team-based challenges or projects related to the career pathways
- Participate in mock job interview
- Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with career cluster survey results
- Select a career pathway within a career cluster of interest
- Know educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career pathway
- Learn about employer expectations and employability skills
- Understand W-4s, pay stubs, and income taxes
- Understand the various aspects of personal banking
- Identify resources for paying for college
- Know how salary impacts standard of living
- Explore the opportunity costs of postsecondary choices

- Know the different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions
- Compare campus life opportunities
- Visit at least 3 postsecondary institutions
- Take at least one college entrance exam
- Know 3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for postsecondary program of study
- Compare and contrast personal strengths and weaknesses with career choice
- Interview a professional who is working in a desired field
- Participate in a job shadowing opportunity
- Create a resume and personal statement
- Know application deadlines, test timing, cost, and preparation for industry-based certification for career pathway
- Identify an internship opportunity related to career pathway
- Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interest
- Know how to find scholarship opportunities
- Complete a financial aid assessment with a family member
- Attend a postsecondary affordability workshop with a family member
- Know general cost ranges of various postsecondary institutions
- Understand timeline for financial aid process
- Know financial aid deadlines for chosen postsecondary options
- Know the affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
- Know the difference between need-based, merit-based, and self-help financial aid

- By 12/31, Complete 3 or more admissions applications to postsecondary institutions
- By 12/31, Meet with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the postsecondary admissions process are completed on time
- Understand the job application process for desired field(s)
- Obtain an internship opportunity related to the career pathways
- Create a plan to pay for college using financial resources
- Complete the FAFSA (or other financial aid application)
- Attend a financial aid application completion workshop
- Know the terms and conditions of the scholarship or loan
- Understand the student loan process and available loan options
- Understand how to be a responsible borrower



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