

Dakota Career Readiness Plan



Dakota Community School District #201 provides each student with a individualized post secondary learning plan. Dakota CUSD defines career ready graduates as students having the skills and motivation to pursue a self-directed goal with the opportunity to complete plans throughout high school. This list of benchmark expectations will act as a guide for Dakota CUSD staff, students and parents as we plan and prepare for our students to be ready to go.

Illinois Postsecondary and Career Expectations PaCE

- Career exploration and development
- ◆ College exploration and development
- Financial aid and literacy
- CP Career Pathways
- PS Post Secondary

By the end of 6th Grade

Student should be supported to:

- Attend a financial literacy fair

A student should know:

- ◆ The learning behaviors consistent with successful students

By the end of 8th Grade

A student should be supported to :

- ◆ Identify and set personal and academic goals
- ◆ Gather information regarding training and education for jobs in field of choice

By the end of 8th Grade

- Create an inventory of interest and possible careers

- Complete a career cluster survey

- ◆ ● Take part in a financial literacy course

- Complete an education plan for high school

A Student Should Know

- ◆ The relationship between the skills acquired in extra-curricular activities and PS career goals

- The jobs and or careers their parents hold

- The concept of career clusters for further exploration

- Possible career clusters they are currently interested in

By the end of 9th Grade

A student should be supported to :

- Revisit/update the career interest inventory

- ◆ Complete 4 year plan with counselor

- ◆ Outline a plan for school and community engagement aligned with PS goals

A Student Should Know

- At least one career cluster for further exploration

- ◆ The relationship between coursework, school and community engagement, and outcomes to PS goals

- General cost ranges of various PS options

By the end of 10th Grade

A student should be supported to :

- Complete orientation to a chosen CP

Chose a CP related to a career cluster

- ◆ ■ Identify 2-3 adults to support him/her Through the PS planning/ selection process

- ◆ Attend a PS workshop with an adult family member

- Complete community service in the community

- Attend a career expo

A Student Should Know

- Educational requirements, cost, entry level, and median salary for chosen CP

- Different types of PS credentials and institutions including CareerTEC options

- General timing of exams and applications aligned with chosen CP

- Benefit of early college credit related to PS goals



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By the end of 11th Grade

A student should be supported to :

- Identify and complete a virtual job-shadow
- Revisit/update the career interest inventory
- ◆ Attend at least one college fair
- Create a resume and personal statement and **seek part-time employment**
- ◆ Take at least one college entrance exam
- ◆ Determine readiness for college-level coursework in Math/ELA and enrolled in either a college transitional course or a dual credit course in Math.
- ◆ Enroll in at least one early college credit opportunity

By the end of 11th Grade

- Identify the specialized skills necessary to be successful in their chosen CP by the end of the 1st semester
- Complete a self-assessment regarding their proficiency in relationship to their skill set and match the results
- A student should know :**
 - If the CP lines up with academic behavior results and remaining their proficiency in relationship to their skill set and match the results
 - Application deadlines, test timing, cost, financial aid deadline, return on investment of options to achieve PS goals.
 - ◆ 3-5 match schools or options of PS program of study.
 - ◆ ■ Address any remedial needs to assist in PS and CP readiness.

By the end of 12th Grade

A student should have:

- ◆ Completed 3 or more applications that align with PS goals
- ◆ Met with academic advisor to ensure all steps in the PS admission process are completed on time
- Attended a FAFSA completion workshop
- Completed the FAFSA
- Completed an exit interview with 2-3 staff members to review their CP and PS goals

A student be supported to:

- ◆ ■ Receive industry-based certification when aligned with PS goals.
- ◆ Address any remedial needs in Math/ELA
- Obtain an internship opportunity relating to CP
- Attend a financial aid award letter workshop

By the end of 12th Grade

- ◆ Complete an analysis of their CP or PS goals relating to specialized skills and interest **including taking the ASAB exam if CP includes military.**
- ◆ Understand the steps they have taken K-12 to prepare them to independently pursue a different CP or PS should they choose to do so
- A student should know:**
 - ◆ How CP courses articulate with PS goals
 - ◆ Estimated cost of each PS option
 - Affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt
 - Terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan

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