

# K - 12 Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE) Framework: Encourage, Engage, Equip, Empower and Employ



**Union Ridge School District 86**  
A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

BY THE END OF KINDERGARTEN	BY THE END OF 1ST GRADE	BY THE END OF 2ND GRADE
A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:
Be aware of workers in their community  Share their thoughts about what they want to be when they grow up	Share their thoughts about what they want to be when they grow up  Identify and describe what makes them unique	Create a career family tree  Be exposed to and reflect on several careers  Share their thoughts on what they want to be when they grow up  Reflect on what makes them unique and different
A student should know:	A student should know:	A student should know:
What is money  What are needs versus wants	How do they get money	About saving and spending

BY THE END OF 3RD GRADE	BY THE END OF 4TH GRADE	BY THE END OF 5TH GRADE
A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:
Understand how cost influences spending	Be aware of the education needed to support different career options Participate in an activity that would provide exposure to possible career pathway	Create career goals
A student should know:	A student should know:	A student should know:
How to manage money  How to allocate weekly allowance	What is supply and demand  What are producers and consumers	The different methods of payment (e.g. cash, credit, debit) How to set long and short term goals for saving Practices that develop a growth mindset

BY THE END OF 6TH GRADE	BY THE END OF 7TH GRADE	BY THE END OF 8TH GRADE
A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:	A student should be supported to:
Explore their interests  Explore incomes of different careers	Understand a budget and the salary needed to meet basic needs  Explore their strengths Identify sources of information Identify one trusted adult the student can go to in time of need and success	Be exposed to language that emphasizes individual skills, strengths and assets Explore career interests Select one career pathway endorsement they would like to earn on their high school diploma Estimate the cost of a 2-year and 4-year college education Demonstrate a growth mindset to envision a positive future
A student should know:	A student should know:	A student should know:
How to compare and prioritize needs and wants  Information and examples of wide range of careers	The benefits of financial responsibility and the costs of financial irresponsibility  How to analyze situations to determine if they represent financially responsible decisions	How high school dual credit classes can save them time and money How to develop an education plan for at least one career interest The relationship between high school coursework, attendance, and grades to postsecondary plans

BY THE END OF 9TH GRADE
A student should be supported to:
Revisit career cluster interest survey and take a career interest survey Select a career pathway within a career cluster of interest Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interest Be aware of youth employment opportunities while in High School Develop public speaking skills Complete a financial aid assessment with a family member
Attend a postsecondary options workshop Attend a college fair Complete a college fit/match inventory Complete or enroll in at least one early college credit opportunity Review coursework, and postsecondary/career plans in relation to the ISBE College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRIs)
A student should know:
One or two career clusters for further exploration and development Own learning style and how it relates to career interests General cost ranges of various postsecondary institutions The different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions

BY THE END OF 10TH GRADE
A student should be supported to:
Explore internships and apprenticeships for scholarships and money opportunities Attend a postsecondary affordability workshop with a family member  Identify two related postsecondary paths and/or college majors strongly correlated with assessment results Outline a plan for high school courses to prevent remediation at the college level Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans using ISBE CCRIs
A student should know:
Educational requirements, cost, expected entry level and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career clusters How career pathways courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at postsecondary options Career attributes related to career interests  The affordability of postsecondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt Where to find scholarship opportunities

BY THE END OF 11TH GRADE
A student should be supported to:
Participate in a job shadowing opportunity Complete an elective course to explore career interests Participate in mock job interview Create a resume and personal statement Identify an internship opportunity to career pathways Create a plan and timeline for financial aid process Learn about debt and credit scores Outline a plan to pay for college  Visit at least 3 postsecondary institutions Determine readiness for college-level coursework in math/ELA and enrollment in either "catch up" or "speed up" course Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans using ISBE CCRIs Take at least one college entrance exam
A student should know:
Financial aid deadlines for chosen postsecondary options The difference between need-based, merit-based and self-help students financial aid programs  3-5 match schools, one safety, one reach school for postsecondary program of study The general timing of postsecondary entrance exams and applications

BY THE END OF 12TH GRADE
By 12/31 a student should have:
Completed the FAFSA Attended a FASFA completion workshop  Completed 3 or more admissions applications to postsecondary institutions Met with a school counselor to ensure all steps in the postsecondary admission process are completed on time
A student should be supported to:
Obtain an internship opportunity related to the career pathways If applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) related to the career pathways Secure letters of recommendation for college and scholarship applications Understand the college placement process Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary/career plans using ISBE CCRIs
A student should know:
The terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan Estimated cost of each postsecondary option

