

Middle School College and Career Readiness

The student explores career assessments as related to college and career planning. The student is expected to:

- a analyze and discuss the initial results of career assessments;
- b explore the 16 career clusters
- c research trending fields related to career interest areas;
- d determine academic requirements in related career fields;
- e research educational options and requirements using available resources.

The student analyzes college and career opportunities. The student is expected to:

- a determine academic requirements for transitioning to high school;
- b explore opportunities for earning college credit in high school such as advanced placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, dual credit, and local and statewide articulated credit;
- c develop an awareness of financial aid, scholarships, and other sources of income as well as college savings to support college and career advancement;
- d discuss the impact of effective college and career planning;
- e demonstrate decision-making skills related to school and community issues, programs of study, and college and career planning;
- f identify how performance on assessments such as the PSAT/NMSQT[®], SAT[®], ACT[®], ASVAB[®], and Texas Success Initiative (TSI[®]) impact personal academic and career goals.

The student evaluates skills for personal success. The student is expected to:

- a use interpersonal skills to facilitate effective teamwork;
- b use problem-solving models and critical-thinking skills to make informed decisions;
- c use effective time-management and goal-setting strategies;
- d identify skills that can be transferable among a variety of careers;
- e create a personal career portfolio;

f make oral presentations that fulfill specific purposes using appropriate technology;

g identify entrepreneurial opportunities within a field of personal interest.

The student recognizes the impact of college and career choices on personal lifestyle. The student is expected to:

a prepare a personal budget reflecting the student's desired lifestyle;

b use resources to compare and contrast salaries of at least three careers in the student's interest area

The student demonstrates an understanding of financial management. The student is expected to:

a compare the advantages and disadvantages of different types of money management services;

b simulate opening and maintaining different types of financial accounts;

c simulate different methods of withdrawals and deposits;

d reconcile financial statements, including fees and services;

e compare and contrast forms of credit, including credit cards and debit cards;

f discuss the importance of credit scores;

g discuss the impact of identity theft on credit

h examine the effects of poor credit scores as they relate to personal finance and career opportunities.

The student develops skills for professional success. The student is expected to:

a demonstrate effective verbal, nonverbal, written, and electronic communication skills;

b evaluate the impact of positive and negative personal choices, including use of electronic communications such as social networking sites;

c model characteristics of effective leadership, teamwork, and conflict management;

d recognize the importance of a healthy lifestyle, including the ability to manage stress;

e explore characteristics necessary for professional success such as work ethics, integrity, dedication, perseverance, and interactions with diverse populations.
