



CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING FRAMEWORK

Career Awareness | Grades 6-12

Learners build awareness about career and postsecondary options.

Career Exploration | Grades 6-12

Learners explore career and postsecondary options in order to make informed decisions about their future.

Career Preparation | Grades 9-12

Learners apply their understanding through practical experiences such as training programs and simulated work experiences that develop knowledge and core competencies for success in careers and postsecondary education.

Career Training | Grades 10-12

Learners train for employment and/or postsecondary education by engaging in work experiences such as internships and apprenticeships.

AT ALL GRADE LEVELS 6-12

A student should be **exposed to**:

- A broad range of career fields embedded within courses
- Low commitment career exploration opportunities during the school day
- Field trip experiences aligned with courses
- Guest speakers within the classroom

A student should be **supported to**:

- Complete the Career Interest Inventory
- Develop a four-year plan with career interests in mind

GRADES 6-8

A student should be **exposed to**:

- Opportunities to learn about programs/courses available at the Technology Center of DuPage
- A Career Day

A student should be **supported to**:

- Begin career planning
- Explore interests and develop talents through electives programming

GRADES 9-10

A student should be **exposed to**:

- The Career Pathways opportunities
- An internship fair

A student should be **supported to**:

- Begin to narrow the focus of career interests
- Learn about internships and their benefits

GRADE 11

A student should be **exposed to**:

- A job shadowing experience
- Opportunities to hear from alumni to assist in planning for their future

A student should be **supported to**:

- Secure an internship or apprenticeship opportunity

GRADE 12

A student should be **exposed to**:

- A job shadowing experience
- A capstone course with a team-based challenge

A student should be **supported to**:

- Secure an internship or apprenticeship opportunity