

## Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary and Employment

Legislation requires all students, starting in grade nine, to have a "plan" around seven key elements. The name for this plan will vary among districts, but it should be looked at as a life plan that includes academic scheduling, career exploration, 21st century skills, community partnerships, college access, all forms of postsecondary training, and experiential learning opportunities. The Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment (Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.125) Toolkit is a guide that includes resources in all seven required areas, as well as strategies and partnerships that can help districts implement this directive.

**Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.125:** Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Involuntary Career Tracking Prohibited.

- (a) Consistent with sections 120B.128, 120B.13, 120B.131, 120B.132, 120B.14, 120B.15, 120B.30, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), 125A.08, and other related sections, school districts, beginning in the 2013-1014 school year, must assist all students by no later than grade 9 to explore their college and career interests and aspirations and develop a plan for a smooth and successful transition to postsecondary education or employment. All students' plans must be designed to:
  - (1) provide a comprehensive academic plan for completing a college and career-ready curriculum premised on meeting state and local academic standards and developing 21st century skills such as team work, collaboration, and good work habits;
  - (2) emphasize academic rigor and high expectations;
  - (3) help students identify personal learning styles that may affect their postsecondary education and employment choices;
  - (4) help students gain access to postsecondary education and career options
  - (5) Integrate strong academic content into career-focused courses and integrate relevant career-focused courses into strong academic content;
  - (6) help students and families identify and gain access to appropriate counseling and other supports and assistance that enable students to complete required coursework, prepare for postsecondary education and careers, and obtain information about postsecondary education costs and eligibility for financial aid and scholarship;
  - (7) help students and families identify collaborative partnerships of kindergarten through grade 12 schools, postsecondary institutions, economic development agencies, and employers that support students' transition to postsecondary education and employment and provide students with experiential learning opportunities; and
  - (8) be reviewed and revised at least annually by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the school or district to ensure that the student's course-taking schedule keeps the student making adequate progress to meet state and local high school graduation requirements and with a reasonable chance to succeed with employment or postsecondary education without the need to first complete remedial course work.
- (b) A school district may develop grade-level curricula or provide instruction that introduces students to various careers, but must not require any curriculum, instruction, or employment-related activity that obligates an elementary or secondary student to involuntarily select a career, career interest, employment goals, or related job training.

Access the Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment (120B.125) Toolkit on the following web pages:

[College and Career Planning Resources page](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/EdExc/CollegePlan/index.html)

(<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/EdExc/CollegePlan/index.html>)

[College and Career Readiness page](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/CollReadi/index.html)

(<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/CollReadi/index.html>)

[College and Career Preparation page](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/JustParent/CollPrep/index.html)

(<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/JustParent/CollPrep/index.html>)

[Career and Technical Education page](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/CareerEd/index.html)

(<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/CareerEd/index.html>)

The **Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment (Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.125) Toolkit** is a resource for teachers, counselors, parents, and administrators to utilize for materials, tools and strategies to support student career development.

As with any specific curriculum, resource or strategy, the Minnesota Department of Education does not endorse those listed in the toolkit, but rather, the toolkit is a compilation of career development suggestions from educators and professionals working in the fields of secondary, postsecondary and the workforce. Schools and districts are encouraged to apply their local policies, evaluation criteria and review processes when considering and determining any resource listed in the toolkit.

Legislation does not require the **Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary and Employment** plan to be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education.

Effective 2013-2014 school year to meet legislative requirements, districts must work to implement all seven elements for all students starting no later than grade 9. Districts should examine elements already in place and devise plans to implement all legislated requirements for all students.

Districts should determine their own means for implementing, selecting resources, reviewing, and record keeping of the students' plans.

For further information or assistance with questions, please contact:

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