

PaCE Yourself: Turning Passion into Profession



The **PaCE**, or **Post-Secondary and Career Expectations**, framework allows each student to have a **4-Year Course Plan**. This helps them explore their passions, align their classes with career goals, and understand their options for life after high school – enrollment in college, enlistment in the military, or employment in a career. Students and their families should also learn about financial aid to make informed decisions together.

BY THE END OF 9TH GRADE

- Complete the Interest Profiler in [MaiaLearning](#), review results and ♥ at least 2 careers to add to your list
- Take the Personality Assessment in [MaiaLearning](#) to better understand how your traits align with career options
- Explore a career pathway and build a **4-Year Course Plan** with classes that match your interests and goals
- Meet with your school counselor to begin to create your plans for high school and beyond - whether that means enrollment, enlistment or employment
 - Learn what's required to take **Dual Credit** and Advanced Placement (AP) courses that can give you a headstart on your future
 - Explore financial aid options—like the [Harper Promise Scholarship](#)—and the earning potential of different careers

BY THE END OF 10TH GRADE

- Complete the character surveys in [MaiaLearning](#), revisit your Interest Profiler and Personality Assessment to see how your results have changed
- Update your [MaiaLearning](#) Portfolio to include your Post-Secondary Goal
- Request early college credit courses, like **Dual Credit** and Advanced Placement (AP), offered at your high school
- Attend the D211 College Night at Palatine HS and explore over 175 colleges and universities
- Explore part-time jobs, internships, and/or volunteer work related to your career interests

BY THE END OF 11TH GRADE

- Use [MaiaLearning](#) search tools to explore college and careers that match your interests
- Check the Events page in [MaiaLearning](#) and meet with college representatives who visit your high school to explore your options
- Attend College Planning Night for Juniors with your family
- Meet with your counselor/teachers to review your readiness for college-level Math and English
- Attend the D211 College Night at Palatine HS and explore over 175 colleges and universities
- Visit post-high school options—like colleges, training programs, or military reps—and add your top choices to your "Considering" list in [MaiaLearning](#)
- Apply for jobs or internships to gain experience in your career pathway

BY THE END OF 12TH GRADE

- Attend college application sessions for support with completing and submitting applications
- Join a Financial Aid Night and FAFSA Completion Workshop with your family
- Complete the **FAFSA, Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid, or the Non-Participation Form** – whichever fits your situation – to meet the state graduation requirement
- Search and apply for scholarships that align with your goals and interests
- Review your placement in Math and English to confirm you're ready for college-level coursework
- Check how your **Dual Credit** and AP courses transfer to the colleges or programs you're considering
- Attend the **Senior Job Fair** if you are planning on entering the workforce after graduation
- Complete the Senior Exit Survey and mark your final college choice as 'Accepted - Attending' in [MaiaLearning](#) to send your final transcript

Explore all Four Years

- Create and maintain your **4-Year Course Plan** and update [MaiaLearning](#) as your plans change
- Get involved in at least two extracurricular activities and/or athletic programs
- Get involved in community service opportunities to build experiences
- Build relationships with trusted adults at school

- Attend college exploration events, including D211 College Night, First Generation College Workshop and Directions Fair (IEP/504 students)
- Seek out career exploration experiences: attend guest speaker sessions, register for career site visits, and explore career fairs through the Career Advisor