

PLAN Overview (Use this information in emails, newsletters other communications)

The PLAN® program helps 10th graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts' high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years.

PLAN can help all students—those who are college-bound as well as those who are likely to enter the workforce directly after high school.

Student Website: www.planstudent.org

General College and Career Readiness Information:

ACT's Definition of College and Career Readiness

ACT defines college and career readiness as “the acquisition of the knowledge and skills a student needs to enroll in and succeed in credit bearing first-year courses at a postsecondary institution (such as a two or four-year college, trade school, or technical school) without the need for remediation.”

Benefits of the ACT College and Career Readiness System

- Aligned with the Common Core State Standards and ACT College Readiness Standards and Benchmarks
- Ready for immediate implementation by any school, district, or state to better prepare their students for college or careers
- Reveals what students need to learn and strengthens curriculum
- Offers score reports to pinpoint the skills and knowledge that students possess, identify gaps in the students' learning, adjust curriculum to close learning gaps, and plan a student's education to prepare for college and career
- Provides the tools, data, and information educators need to make informed advising and curriculum decisions
- Helps engage students in planning their own futures. When students know what colleges expect or what skills they will need to pursue a career, in terms they can understand, they can make adjustments to achieve a smooth transition to postsecondary education or career training

ACT research confirms that the same level of academic achievement is needed for success in college or a career. It also establishes that students need to begin planning for college and career early, by taking

rigorous courses and monitoring their progress toward college and career readiness. It supports the use of curriculum-based longitudinal assessments and curriculum and educational practice improvements that meet rigorous course standards. The research also shows what skills colleges expect incoming first-year students to possess and what skills employers want employees to have before they enter the workforce. ACT has more than five decades of research data to support the use of ACT's assessments and solutions to help you prepare all of your students for the demands of college and work. ACT knows exactly what happens to high school graduates once they get to college or to work and how to maximize their success. Website to learn more: www.act.org/readiness