

Am I HIGH SCHOOL READY?

I AM BUILDING EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

I AM BUILDING SELF AWARENESS

I AM BUILDING A HIGH SCHOOL PLAN

I AM BUILDING MY CAREER AWARENESS & EXPOSURE

I AM BUILDING THE ABILITY TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES

I AM BUILDING THE APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL SKILLS



Profile of a High School Ready Student

What does it mean to be “high school ready” in Delaware?

Students should exit grade eight having found success in equity-centered career and technical education, academic, and social emotional programming. High school can be a launching place for young people to accomplish their postsecondary goals through youth-centered programming that fosters exploration of interests and makes intentional connections to career and postsecondary paths.

In order to be ready for high school, middle grades should support students to:



INCREASE CAREER AWARENESS AND EXPOSURE: Increase their awareness of and exposure to different types of careers.



INCREASE SELF-AWARENESS: Understand their aptitudes, interests, personality and preferences and how those might relate to their future in the workforce.



DEVELOP EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS: Identify and develop employability skills such as but not limited to: effective decision making, collaboration, problem solving, self advocacy and actions that support effectiveness in the workplace.



DEVELOP FOUNDATIONAL TECHNICAL SKILLS: Acquire or develop foundational technical skills in specific career areas such as understanding job or career related terminology, demonstrating the safe and appropriate use of industry-specific tools and equipment, and/or learning to use industry-specific software as a part of career exploration or planning activities.



DEVELOP AN ACTIONABLE PLAN FOR NEXT STEPS IN HIGH SCHOOL: Explore the various after high school options that are available in their community, state, nationally, and internationally, as well as the high school career pathways that could lead to those options.



DEVELOP THE ABILITY TO MAKE INFORMED EDUCATIONAL CHOICES: Create, with input from educators, their families and other trusted authority figures, a student success plan that leverages short and long term actions to support their own aptitudes, strengths, interests and future career/educational goals. Students will also examine the components that make up effective decision making.

This profile was informed by extensive feedback and perspectives provided by partners (including students, family members, counselors, educators, school and district leaders, and industry and community partners) and research from ACTE and Advance CTE. The poster depicting the six core key areas of the profile of a high school ready student was designed by two Delaware students: ARiyah Nocks and Yelitza Ortiz-Uscanga.