

8 Components of College and Career Readiness Counseling

1. **College Aspirations**

The goal is to build a college-going culture based on early college awareness by nurturing in students the confidence to aspire to college and the resilience to overcome challenges along the way.

2. **Academic Planning for College and Career Readiness**

Counseling should advance students' planning, preparation, participation and performance in a rigorous academic program that connects to their college and career aspirations and goals.

3. **Enrichment and Extracurricular Engagement**

Counselors should ensure equitable exposure to a wide range of extracurricular and enrichment opportunities that build leadership, nurture talents and interests, and increase engagement with school.

4. **College and Career Exploration and Selection Processes**

Students should have early and ongoing exposure to experiences and information necessary to make informed decisions when selecting a college or career that connects to academic preparation and future aspirations.

5. **College and Career Assessments**

The goal is to promote preparation, participation and performance in college and career assessments by all students.

6. **College Affordability Planning**

Counseling should provide students and families with comprehensive information about college costs, options for paying for college, and the financial aid and scholarship processes and eligibility requirements, so they are able to plan for and afford a college education.

7. **College and Career Admission Processes**

In this area, counselors aim to ensure that students and families have an early and ongoing understanding of the college and career application and admission processes so they can find the postsecondary options that are the best fit with their aspirations and interests.

8. **Transition from High School Graduation to College Enrollment**

Counselors should connect students to school and community resources to help them overcome barriers and ensure the successful transition from high school to college.