

# Louisiana Believes

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The Intersection of Quality IGPs and  
The New Career Readiness Course

# Preparing for the Graduation Planning Process

Planning begins with the student **exploring** career possibilities by using an online guidance system such as [My Life, My Way](#) or [Unlock My Future](#). The planning process includes

- aligning educational goals with career interests
- making appropriate secondary, postsecondary, and workforce decisions
- identifying academic coursework for the next school year
- tracking [graduation requirements](#) for the chosen diploma pathway
- understanding the similarities and differences between diploma [pathways](#)
- editing the [IGP](#) to reflect changes in postsecondary goals

# Creating and Storing the IGP

## The Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)

- connects academic and career goals with postsecondary and workforce plans,
- tracks high school graduation requirements,
- **documents completion of financial aid planning**, and
- includes signatures from legal guardian and student.

Students can download the LDOE [fillable form](#) and use a print or electronic version of the form. School systems have the option to upload an electronic version to their career planning system, LOSFA [Student Hub](#). Schools who use a print version can store the IGP form in the student cumulative folder.

# Reaching Planning Milestones

## End of 8<sup>th</sup> grade

- Develop plan to explore educational and career possibilities.
- List the *required* core courses to be taken through 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Identify *elective* courses to be taken in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

## 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade

- Update courses being taken that year; include remedial courses.
- Identify courses for the following year.
- Continue exploring educational and career possibilities.

# Designating Diploma Pathway Selection in Student Transcript System (STS)

## Professional School Counselors

- Ensure that the student has declared a diploma pathway **by the end of the 10th grade year.**
- Select the appropriate diploma pathway in the local software system.

## Data Managers

- Verify that the appropriate diploma type code is on the student's record (and career option code when applicable)
- Correct errors to meet STS data specifications before submitting to STS.



## Reaching Planning Milestones

### **At end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade and annually thereafter**

- Select diploma pathway at end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Update plan to include the sequence of courses and experiences to ensure successful completion of chosen diploma pathway.
- Track required courses until all are completed and graduation requirements are met.
- **Indicate completion of financial aid planning in 12<sup>th</sup> grade.**
- Review and update plan and obtain all signatures.

See [Bulletin 741](#) for more information.

## Fall Counselor Collaborations

**Please encourage middle and high school counselors to register in Wisdomwhere.**

- October 16 at University View Academy, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- October 17 at St. Charles Professional Learning Center, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- October 18 at Acadia Parish Educational Center, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- October 29 at Bossier Instructional Center, 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- October 29 at Monroe City School Board, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- October 30 at Avoyelles Parish Media Center, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Email [leslie.gilliland@la.gov](mailto:leslie.gilliland@la.gov) if you have questions about these events.

## Finding Resources and Contacting the LDOE

Visit the [LDOE Financial Aid for Students](#) web page and the [LDOE Financial Aid Library](#) for Louisiana's Financial Aid Access [Policy](#), [FAFSA](#) Resources, [Planning Guidance](#), and the [Financial Aid Working Group Report](#).

### Contacts

[ldfinancialaid@la.gov](mailto:ldfinancialaid@la.gov)--Financial Aid Planning Support

[jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov)--JumpStart Support

[sca@la.gov](mailto:sca@la.gov)--Supplemental Course Academy Support

[leslie.gilliland@la.gov](mailto:leslie.gilliland@la.gov)--Counselor Support

[highschoolacademics@la.gov](mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov)--Graduation Requirements



# Innovative New High School Level Course

As part of the Educator Voice Fellowship, educators from across Louisiana drafted a new curriculum to help all students to:

- Develop essential 21st century workforce skills - the ability to communicate, collaborate, and lead
- Explore new and exciting careers and industry sectors
- Learn about themselves and their interests to successfully navigate high school, postsecondary education, and career pathways

# Our Vision for the Course

- Attend explicitly to regional employment landscape
  - 21st century economic shifts
  - Key industry sectors and careers
- Focus on 21st century employability/success skills (understand/apply)
  - 7 domains w/ special focus on 3-4
  - Special attention to planning/navigating HS and careers (find and pursue pathways)
- Start w/ the end in mind; driven by “Gold Standard,” industry-aligned performance tasks (tied to careers)
- Build on best practices and evidence base
- Foster integrated, engaging approach
- Be different and more engaging and effective than *Journey to Careers*
- Be able to be implemented at scale, w/ fidelity

# Course Competencies: Career Success Requires New Knowledge and Skills

1. Applied Knowledge (academic, critical thinking, and career related tech skills)
2. Relational Skills and Personal Attributes (e.g., interpersonal skills like teamwork, customer service, exercising leadership, respecting differences, resolving conflict and personal qualities like integrity, self-discipline, personal responsibility)
3. Executive and Communication Skills (e.g., technology, systems thinking, information use, resource management)
4. Career Navigation Skills
5. Postsecondary Transitions Knowledge and Skills
6. Financial Literacy
7. Civic Engagement

# Course Overview

Unit 1: How I Learn and Lead

Unit 2: Teamwork: A Team is only as Strong as its Weakest Link

Unit 3: Project Management

Unit 4: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Unit 5: Digital Citizenship

Unit 6: Leadership and Public Service Unit 7: Financial Literacy

Unit 8: Navigating Career Sectors and Pathways Unit 9: Looking Forward

# Piloting the New Course

- Leading educators from across the state trained as facilitators to teach the course, practicing use of key resources (May-June 2018)
- Middle and high school teachers from across the state participate(d) in summer training to learn about the course need, design, implementation, and resources (June-July 2018)
- Dozens of Louisiana middle and high school classrooms pilot new course (August 2018-June 2019)
  - Have free access to all course materials
  - Participate in an ongoing, virtual community
  - Share implementation challenges and solutions, best practices, and feedback
  - Become role models for other teachers, statewide
- LDOE and its partners continue to collect feedback, assess quality, and make improvements
- New course replaces Journey to Careers statewide (July 2019 - ongoing)

## Contact Information

For more information on the  
Quest for Success Pilot,  
please contact: [Tedrick.Holmes@la.gov](mailto:Tedrick.Holmes@la.gov)