Unit 7: Navigating My Career Path
Performance Task 2: Individual Graduation Plan
Student Resource

Name: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
Class/Section: ______________________

Performance Task Description:
Individual Graduation Plans (IGPs) are based on your academic record, talents, and interests and outline high school graduation requirements relevant to your postsecondary goals. With the assistance of your family and school guidance counselor, you will begin to develop the high school curriculum framework and related graduation requirements that best meet your postsecondary goals. You will revisit your IGP annually and update or revise as needed and indicate your participation in the University Pathway and/or the Jump Start Pathway at the end of 10th grade. Both pathways help students prepare for postsecondary success and gain access to scholarships. Students selecting the University Pathway will continue to pursue core academic credits that align with the TOPS Core Curriculum.

Goals:
- Understand potential career requirements, such as the level of credential or education that is required and the type of experiences needed to pursue a career of interest.
- Analyze the relationship between personal and career interests and potential occupations.
- Understand how to navigate a career pathway for a specific occupation or occupational cluster and identify the proper career planning.
- Establish individual goals, reflect on those goals, and develop strategies to overcome obstacles when challenges arise.
- Identify personal interests, goals, and skills and match those interests with applicable occupations.
- Evaluate and present occupational data.
- Establish a vision for achieving personal and career goals.

Essential Questions:
- How do my personal and career goals influence my career choice?
- What type of coursework is necessary to achieve my personal and career goals?
- What types of occupations am I most interested in pursuing?
- What types of skills and education are required to pursue a career of interest?
- Are there any other considerations to pursuing this career? Are there jobs in my region? What type of postsecondary education is required?
- Can I afford to support a family if I pursue a career of interest?
- How can I ensure that I am prepared to pursue a career of interest?

Directions:
Step 1: My Next Move: Identify Interests and Career Options
- Use the ACT World-of-Work Map to assist in conducting career research
- Review selected occupations using the Louisiana Workforce Commission tools to evaluate regional job demand
- Use the Louisiana Build Your Future website to research the requirements to start working toward a craft profession

Step 2: My Next Move: Research Jump Start TOPS Tech Pathway and Career Opportunities

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Louisiana Believes
### Directions:
- Review Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma [graduation requirements](#).
- Research credential and career opportunities using the [statewide IBC credentials](#) list which can provide graduates with the opportunity for a credential with lifelong value.

### Step 3: My Next Move: Research TOPS University Pathway and College Entrance Requirements
- Research TOPS University Pathway [requirements](#).
- Research entrance requirements for colleges of interest:
  - **Louisiana’s Community and Technical Colleges:** These are typically non-residential and offer hundreds of two-year degrees and certifications that transfer to four-year universities.
  - **Four-year Colleges and Universities:** Both colleges and universities are public or private institutions that offer undergraduate degree programs in specific areas of study. Colleges usually have a smaller enrollment, smaller class sizes, and more student/teacher interaction. In contrast, universities offer undergraduate and graduate degree programs, usually offer more diverse curricular options, and have a much higher enrollment.
  - **TOPS Tech Early Start Private Training Providers:** A TOPS-Tech Early Start Award may be used to fund any technical or applied course leading to an Industry-Based Certification, a Certification of Applied Science, and a Certificate of Technical Sciences offered at a Louisiana public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution, or by any Louisiana training provider recognized by the Louisiana Workforce Commission and approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### Step 4: Individual Graduation Plan
- Meet with your teachers, school counselors, and parents/guardians to complete the Individual Graduation Plan form.
- Update your Vision Board from Unit 1 to include your Individual Graduation Plan.
- Present your Individual Graduation Plan to the class.

### Resources:
- [ACT World-of-Work Map](#)
- [Louisiana Workforce Commission](#)
- [Louisiana Build Your Future](#)
- [Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma Graduation Requirements](#)
- [Statewide IBC Credentials List](#)
- [TOPS University Pathway requirements](#)
- [Louisiana’s Community and Technical Colleges](#)
- [Louisiana’s Four-year Universities](#)
- [ACT® College Search Tool](#)
- [TOPS Tech Early Start Private Training Providers](#)
- [My Next Move Career Plan Template](#)
- [Individual Graduation Plan Template](#)
Middle-skill jobs require some type of postsecondary education that includes military training, certifications, apprenticeship, or a two-year degree. High-skill jobs require a bachelor’s degree or higher. You will develop a list of potential careers and occupations that are middle- and high-skill that reflect your personal and career goal statements. Evaluate the list of occupations and choose one middle- and high-skill occupation that matches your personal and career goal statements.

Use the ACT World-of-Work Map to assist in conducting career research on middle- and high-skill occupations that you are interested in pursuing. Use the Louisiana Workforce Commission tools to evaluate regional job demand for the select middle- and high-skill occupation. You can also use the Louisiana Build Your Future website to research the requirements to start working toward a craft profession.

Identify a potential middle-skill occupation in the space provided below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation Title 1:</th>
<th>Salary Range:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Entry Level Salary:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth Rate:</td>
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<td>Typical Education:</td>
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<td>Work Experience:</td>
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<td>Postsecondary Education Providers:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Criteria:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Identify a potential high-skill occupation in the space provided below.

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<tr>
<th>Occupation Title 2:</th>
<th>Salary Range:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Postsecondary Education Providers:</td>
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<td>Other Criteria:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Reflection: Jump Start TOPS Tech Pathway and Career Opportunities**

In the space provided below, write a three or four sentence reflection on research conducted for the Jump Start TOPS Tech Pathway and Career Opportunities:

Are there industry credentials that align to your select middle-skill occupation? If yes, please list those credentials in the space provided.

Are there industry credentials that align to your select high-skill occupation? If yes, please list those credentials in the space provided.

**Reflection: TOPS University Pathway and College Entrance Requirements**

In the space provided below write a three or four sentence reflection on research conducted for the TOPS University Pathway and College Entrance Requirements:

Is there a Louisiana’s Community and Technical College that aligns with your select middle- or high-skill career? If yes, what credential or degree program would you need to pursue?

Is there a Louisiana four-year university that aligns with your select high-skill career? If yes, what degree program would you need to pursue?
| Are there private and/or out-of-state universities that align with your select middle- or high-skill career? If yes, how do these universities differ from in-state postsecondary institutions? |
| Are there TOPS Tech Early Start Private Training Providers that align with your select middle- or high-skill career? If yes, what credential program would you need to pursue? |