

At a Glance: Standards, Activities and Measures

AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 1:

Students build awareness and aspirations about postsecondary options, including college and careers.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- 1.1 The different types of postsecondary education pathways, and the career opportunities associated with each pathway.
- 1.2 The relationship between educational achievement and social, economic, and social benefits.
- 1.3 The relationship between educational achievement and social, economic, and social benefits.
- 1.4 The value of lifelong learning as essential to life goals.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **1.5** Exploring subjects of interest and related postsecondary and career options.
- 1.6 Identifying careers of interest.
- 1.7 Engaging in conversations with college students, professionals, and other adults who can offer insight on potential college and career pathways.
- 1.8 Participating in college visits, career days, and related activities that expose them to college life and postsecondary options.
- 1.9 Establishing personal, career, and complementary postsecondary educational goals.

Sample Services or Activities

Postsecondary and career plan advising

Exposure to professionals working in careers of interest

College visits

Connection to college students studying careers of interest

Access to work-based learning opportunities

Guest speakers from various careers in elementary grades, including students' parents

Field trips to local businesses

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

NCAN Common Measures:

Percent of students visiting a college campus applied to

Other Metrics:

Percent of students with an Education and Career Action Plan (ECAP)

Percent of students understanding their own strengths and challenges and expressing belief in their ability to achieve postsecondary goals

Percent of students who have identified one or more career interests

Percent of students who have identified one or more postsecondary interested (e.g. type of college they want to attend particular programs they want to apply to)

Percent of students who have completed an informational interview with a professional in a field of the student's interest

Percent of students who have visited a college campus within the past year (any college)

Percent of students participating in work-based learning experiencing (e.g. internships and job shadowing)



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 2:

Students Recognize the roles of social, emotional and cultural factors that affect their postsecondary planning and transition.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- **2.1** How having personal responsibility and resilience can strengthen college-going aspirations, behaviors, and beliefs.
- **2.2** How race/ethnicity, gender, income, and or/or family background can impact values, attitudes, and beliefs.
- 2.3 Strategies for addressing personal challenges and leveraging personal strengths to overcome any potential barriers (e.g. stereotypes, financial hardship) to success.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **2.4** Making postsecondary choices that are rooted in their own aspirations and values.
- **2.5** Persevering toward postsecondary goals in the face of any potential barriers.

Sample Services or Activities

Mentoring that including explicit conversation about cultural barriers to postsecondary education and professional job markets

Mentoring during college from peers or near-peers who students can relate to

Connection to current college students who share personal experiences

Activities that foster a sense of pride in students' cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds

Guest speakers who represent the backgrounds of your students

Workshops that address handling outside pressure (e.g. peer pressure, parental pressure, societal pressure)

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

Other Metrics:

Percent of students with increased performance on grit assessments

Percent of students exhibiting self-advocacy skills

Percent of students engaging in self-reflection activities

Percent of students who receive mentoring and/or coaching

Percent of students who indicate increased knowledge after attending workshops on self-reflection, resilience or managing peer pressure



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 3:

Students build a rigorous academic foundation and develop academic behaviors essential to preparing for postsecondary pathways.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- 3.1 The relationship between educational achievement and academic behaviors in high school and success in college and career.
- **3.2** Opportunities within and outsie of school for academic enrichment.
- 3.3 Learning strategies (e.g. self-regulated learning, goal setting) and cognitive strategies (e.g. problem formulation, research interpretation, communication, precision and accuracy.)

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **3.4** Building life skills (e.g. time management, personal organization)
- **3.5** Establishing challenging academic goals.
- **3.6** Completing a rigorous college preparatory academic program (e.g. AP, IB, honors, dual enrollment).
- 3.7 Monitoring course selection, credit accumulation, course grades, and GPA to ensure on-track progress toward graduation.
- **3.8** Engaging in academic supports as needed.
- 3.9 Participating in extra-curricular and leadership activities that help build life skills.

Sample Services or Activities

Extracurricular activities that build leadership skills

Partnerships with teachers to provide additional classroom support

One-on-one academic advising (e.g. around course selection, grades)

Extra- or co-curricular activities that provide academic enrichment or support (e.g. tutoring, group homework help)

Workshops that teach students organizational and study skills

Dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or other advanced coursework

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

NCAN Common Measures:

Percentage of students on track to/completing core subject areas/rigorous college-prep curriculum as defined by the state

Percent of students taking the SAT and/or ACT

Percent of students enrolled in AP and/or dual enrollment courses

Percent of on-time high school graduates

Other Metrics:

Percent of students who indicate increased knowledge after attending workshops on time management, study skills and other related topics

Percent of students involved in one or more extracurricular activity

Percent of students with an ECAP defining remaining course requirements and credits needed for high school graduation

Percent of students graduating from high school within four or five years

Percent of students entering postsecondary institutions without requiring remediation



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 4:

Students develop a comprehensive support system that contributes to their academic success.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- 4.1 The benefits of leveraging parent and family resources as well as school and social supports to enhance academic success.
- **4.2** The attitudinal and behavioral characteristics of college-going peers.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **4.3** Engaging in conversations and interactions with family members and peers about college goals.
- **4.4** Establishing strong connections with caring adults, inside and/or outside of school, who are supportive of postsecondary aspirations and can assist with the postsecondary college planning process and transition.
- **4.5** Establishing strong connections with likeminded peers interested in postsecondary attainment.

Sample Services or Activities

Family engagement in programming

Opportunity for students to create formal or informal peer networks

Mentoring with diverse student groups

Connection to networks in the community (e.g. church groups, social service organizations)

Youth development and youth leadership modules

Mentoring from early grades through college and career

Developing relationships with young professionals to aid in transition from college to professional job setting

Connection to advisors/mentors once students are in postsecondary institutions

Connection to alumni associations and professional networks for continued communication postgraduation

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

Other Metrics:

Percent of students who indicate having peers with postsecondary goals

Percent of students indicating that they have had at least one conversation about their future with family or friends within the past month

Percent of students receiving coaching and/or mentoring

Percent of students indicating they have a caring adult they can turn to when they have a question or concern about their future



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 5:

Students acquire the college knowledge and skills necessary to successfully transition into postsecondary education pathways.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- 5.1 The college-going process, including college assessment tests, admissions processes, potential majors/course of study options, and admission requirements.
- **5.2** The difference between high school and postsecondary options with regard to academic expectations and student life.
- **5.3** Where to find resources within the college environment and how to access individuals for support.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **5.4** Participating in test preparation activities for SAT, ACT, and/or other assessments.
- **5.5** Completing college assessment tests.
- 5.6 Exploring, identifying, applying to, and selecting postsecondary options that match academic, career, and personal goals.
- 5.7 Accessing guidance and supports, as needed, to successfully navigate the college application, admission, and enrollment processes.

Sample Services or Activities

Helping in identifying potential colleges that offer a good fit and level of selectivity

Obtaining recommendation letters from teachers, mentors, coachers and other adults

Assistance in writing an application essay

Connection to resources for application and admission fees, including available waivers

Test preparation

Help in compiling necessary college application materials

Connection to resources at postsecondary institutions

Career and academic advising during college

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

NCAN Common Measures:

Percent of students taking the SAT and/or ACT

Percent of students completing college admission applications by school type

Other Metrics:

Percent of students identifying three or more postsecondary options to pursue

Percent of students indicating that college advising services have been helpful for planning their future

Percent of students who demonstrate an understanding of

- -college major/course of study options
- -course requirements to fulfill selected major or program of study
- -different offices/departments that can offer support at postsecondary institutions

Percent of students who get recommendation letters from teachers, mentors, coaches or other adults



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 6:

Students understand the fundamentals of financial literacy and financial planning for postsecondary education.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- **6.1** The components of financial literacy for financing postsecondary education.
- **6.2** The various financial aid and scholarship options for financing postsecondary education.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **6.3** Evaluating postsecondary options based on cost and value.
- **6.4** Exploring a variety of financial aid options and supports.
- **6.5** Applying for financial aid.
- **6.6** Making informed postsecondary decisions that include a plan for funding.

Sample Services or Activities

Aid in completing the FAFSA

One-on-one financial advising with students and/or families

Financial literacy workshops for students and families

Assisting scholarship searches

Encouraging family enrollment in match-savings accounts

Providing salary information for career options

Reminders and strategies for paying back loans and post-graduation

Providing tools (e.g. spreadsheets) for helping students and families plan and manage college finances

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

NCAN Common Measures:

Percent of students who complete and submit a FAFSA form

Percent of students awarded financial aid

Percent of students that complete supplementary scholarship applications

Other Metrics:

Percent of students indicating a greater understanding of college financing after receiving counseling

Percent of students receiving funding for application and admission fees, including receiving any waivers available

Percent of students who have completed a budget for their first year out of high school

Percent of students indicating they know how to finance their postsecondary education



AzCAN Standard and Competencies

Standard 7:

Students enroll, persist, and successfully complete a postsecondary education program of study.

Students gain a deeper understanding of:

- 7.1 The enrollment components and requirements for a selected postsecondary institution, including for summer melt/transition programs.
- **7.2** How to strike a balance between school, work, and social responsibilities
- 7.3 The relationship between educational achievement in college and career success.

Students can acquire this understanding through these behaviors:

- **7.5** Enrolling in a selceted postsecondary institution.
- **7.6** Participating in summer melt/transition programs, as needed and available.
- 7.7 Monitoring course selection, credit accumulation, course grades, and GPA to ensure on-track progress toward graduation.
- 7.8 Seeking help from instructors and individuals providing academic support, as needed.
- 7.9 Exploring career opportunities (e.g. through internships, job fairs, informational interviews) and/pr graduate school options during school and following graduation.

Sample Services or Activities

Connecting to academic advising or non-academic supports in college

Summer bridge programs

Mentoring that continues from elementary grades through high school into college

Early alert systems

Internships or assistance in securing internships

Job shadowing and industry tours

Career exploration with elementary and middle-school students

Career advising at postsecondary level

NCAN Essential Indicators for Common Measures and Other Metrics

NCAN Common Measures:

Percent of students who enroll in a postsecondary institution within six months of high school graduation

Student enrollment by institution type and status (full time vs. part time)

Percent of students participating in summer melt/transition programs

Percent of students placed into remedial courses (English/Math)

Percent of students participating in college orientation programs

Percent of students persisting through school from year to year (year to year student persistence)

Percent of students persisting from one term to the next (term to term student persistence)

Percent of students who complete and submit a renewal FAFSA form

Percent of students who transfer from a two-year to a four-year program, with or without an Associate Degree

Other Metrics:

Percent of students participating in one or more extracurricular activities on campus

Percent of students indicating they feel at home or fit in at their postseoncdary schools

Percent of students participating on work-based learning experiences (e.g. internships and job shadowing)

Percent of students scheduling one or more job interviews during their last semester in college

Percent of students completing a postsecondary program

