My Next Steps Overview

Within MyCareerShines students have access to an education and career planning timeline, My Next Steps. Essentially an interactive list of suggested tasks and activities (listed by grade level), My Next Steps guides students through the necessary steps to plan their education and future career. Each task or activity is linked to the appropriate section within the system and can be checked off the list as it is completed. To facilitate the most effective use of My Next Steps, a list of the tasks and activities for each grade level is below.

6th Grade Tasks
- Begin to think about your interests.
- Learn how education determines the kind of work you can do.
- Explore occupations.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.

7th Grade Tasks
- Find out what your current work-related interests are by taking the Kuder Career Interests Assessment®.
- Explore occupations in the pathway(s) of your highest interests.
- Find out what you can do after high school.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.

8th Grade Tasks
- Assess your skills related to work by taking the Kuder Skills Confidence Assessment®.
- Pay attention to how your interests and skills compare to each other.
- Select three pathways of occupations as favorites.
- Review sample plans of study.
- Develop an education plan related to one or more pathway(s).
- Make a tentative choice about your plans after high school.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.

9th Grade Tasks
- Take, re-take, or review results of the Kuder Career Interests Assessment®.
- Explore occupations in the top 5 pathways from your Kuder Career Interests Assessment®.
- Make a tentative selection of the pathway(s) of your highest interests.
- Review your options after high school.
- Review sample plans of study.
- Review or update your education plan.
- Update your e-profile.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.
10th Grade Tasks
- Take, re-take, or review results of the Kuder Skills Confidence Assessment®.
- Look at the composite report for the career interests and skills confidence assessments.
- Determine skill/knowledge areas that need improvement (where interests are high and skills lower).
- Explore occupations in favorite pathway(s) extensively and develop a short list of occupations that interest you.
- Decide or review selection of path to take after high school (work, military, on-the-job training, community college or technical school, four-year college).
- Review sample plans of study.
- Review or update your education plan.
- Update your e-profile.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.

11th Grade Tasks
- Think about your work-related values by taking the Kuder Work Values Assessment®.
- Retake the Kuder Career Interests Assessment®.
- If you are going for further schooling after high school, select possible schools and add them as favorites.
- Find out which admission test, if any, is preferred by the schools you have selected.
- Develop a resume.
- Review sample plans of study.
- Review or update your education plan.
- Update your e-profile.
- Update your grade level at the end of school year.

12th Grade Tasks
- If you are going for further schooling after high school, narrow your list to no more than three schools.
- Apply for admission to selected school(s).
- If financial aid is needed, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Update your resume.
- Review sample plans of study.
- Review or update your education plan.
- If you are planning to go to work, find job openings.
- Update your e-profile.