

# Montana College and Career Readiness

The goal of the Office of Public Instruction is to ensure that every student graduates from high school prepared to succeed in college, the military or the workforce. A college and career ready student has the following:

Academic and Technical Knowledge and Skills	Employability Knowledge and Skills
<p>A college and career ready student is prepared to complete a freshman level postsecondary course of study without remediation as demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of a rigorous high school curriculum;</li> <li>• Participation in college preparation and college level courses;</li> <li>• Participation in career preparation programs; and</li> <li>• An understanding of college and career planning and the admissions and financial aid process</li> </ul>	<p>A college and career ready student is prepared to connect their education to employment opportunities, as demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal setting and planning;</li> <li>• Clear and effective communication skills;</li> <li>• Critical thinking and problem solving skills;</li> <li>• Working independently and in teams;</li> <li>• Effective knowledge and use of technology; and</li> <li>• Ability to work with diverse groups</li> </ul>
Work Ethic and Professionalism	Measures for Career Readiness
<p>A college and career ready student understands the expectations of the workplace as demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance and punctuality expected by the workplace</li> <li>• Workplace appearance appropriate for position and duties</li> <li>• Motivation and taking initiative, taking projects from initiation to completion</li> <li>• Understanding workplace culture, policy and safety, and respecting confidentiality and workplace ethics</li> </ul>	<p>A student is career ready if they have identified a career pathway and have completed three or more of the following benchmarks while in high school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90 percent attendance</li> <li>• 25 hours of community service</li> <li>• Industry credential or certificate</li> <li>• Career pathway course with college credit</li> <li>• Work-based learning experience</li> <li>• Two or more organized co-curricular activities such as a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO)</li> <li>• An understanding of career choices based on employment and labor market statistics</li> <li>• An ability to analyze the cost of college as it relates to a variety of careers and occupations</li> </ul>



Montana  
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