

Post-Secondary Planning Timeline

Bay Arenac ISD Career Center

Senior Year

Fall & Winter

Continue to participate in the student club associated with your program area. If you didn't serve in a leadership position last year, consider doing it this year. You have valuable experience that can benefit both the club and you in your professional growth.

Re-take the ACT to improve your composite score. (If you didn't achieve all 1s or 2s on the MME, an ACT composite of 21 on your re-take will qualify you for early installment on the Promise Scholarship.)

Remember to have your results sent to ALL of the colleges/universities you're considering, including Delta College. December is the final opportunity to take the ACT to earn a qualifying score for the State of Michigan Competitive Scholarship Program.

Complete the Key Train Pretest. Go to the Career Center website, click on Counseling, Jobs & Careers, Work Keys Profiles, and identify the level of skills (i.e scores) you'd need for the career you're interested in pursuing.

Attend a College Night at your sending school or November 10th at the Career Center. Continue to identify colleges, tech schools, apprenticeship programs that may suit your future goals. (*attached*)

Visit the campuses (*attached*). Apply to colleges or post-secondary training institutes in which you're interested. Applications are available at the Counseling Center or from your sending school counselor. Applications can also be found on-line for most schools.

Make November 1st your target date to get all completed college apps, along with the application fee, to your counselor at your sending school. Getting your applications to colleges early is an advantage, especially for programs that have quotas and to be considered for scholarships the colleges make available.

Admission standards for some Michigan Universities:

<u>GPA</u>	<u>ACT</u>	<u>University</u>
3.4	24	MSU, Grand Valley State, Kettering
3.0	21	CMU, Northwood, WMU, EMU, Oakland,
2.5	20	Lake Superior State, NMU, SVSU
2.2	19	Ferris, Kendall College of Art & Design

Delta, Davenport, Northwestern Michigan, Mid-Michigan Community, Kirtland, and Baker are just a few of the Michigan Community and Business Colleges that have open admission. Open admission means that incoming students need to be high school graduates or have passed the GED. No minimum GPA or ACT score is required.

Be sure senior-year grades remain high. Even though colleges make initial acceptance decisions based on grades at the end of the junior year, admission can be rescinded if grades fall or if graduation requirements are not met. This is especially important if you have been awarded an academic scholarship.

Considering Delta College? If you took the ACT, achieved an English sub-score of 20 and a math sub-score of 19, and had your results sent to Delta you don't need the Compass Test. Class registration begins in early-April. Testing must be completed.

Considering joining the military? See a recruiter. Register to take the ASVAB (Armed Services Aptitude Battery) at your sending school counseling center.

Complete a financial aid search at www.baisdcareercenter.com, click on counseling, click on financial aid. Start to work on a scholarship essay utilizing suggestions at the *College Answer*, *Fast Web*, or *FinAid!* links.

County foundations have numerous scholarships available for students pursuing many different careers. In December, check out their web sites. Most applications due in February.

Bay & Arenac students: www.bayfoundation.org click on *Scholarships* (linked on Center's website)

Meridian students: www.midlandfoundation.org click on *Scholarships*

W.P & Hale students: www.iccf-online.org click on *CFNEM*, click on *Scholarships*

Frankenmuth, Birch Run, Freeland, & Carleton students: www.saginawfoundation.org click on *Scholarships*

Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Colleges require this application in order to determine need and award monies. Complete the FAFSA on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It is recommended that parents have their income taxes calculated before submission of the FAFSA. The optimal deadline for submitting the FAFSA is mid-February. Some scholarship is awarded on a first come/first serve basis.

Discuss an internship opportunity with your teacher and Placement Specialist. Internships allow you to experience the valuable learning that occurs in a workplace environment.

Spring

Financial aid packages for 4-year universities arrive in April. Compare costs with aid. Make final decision BEFORE May 1st.

Applied to Ferris? Articulation forms must be completed by the end of April. www.ferris.edu/admissions/articulation

Hunting for a job in Michigan? www.michiganworks.org

Criteria to Consider When Choosing an Employer

Integrity of the organization (treats employees with honesty and fairness.)

Stability (provides a secure future)

Opportunity for advancement

Ethical business practices (doesn't cut corners or break any laws)

Good benefits package

Job duties/responsibilities match your skills

Continuing education/training opportunities

People you will work with

Starting salary offer

Geographic location

10 Things Employers Want You To Learn in School

1. Work ethic, including self-motivation and time management.
2. Physical skills, e.g., maintaining one's health and good appearance.
3. Verbal (oral) communication, including one-on-one and in a group.
4. Written communication, including editing and proofing one's work.
5. Working directly with people, relationship building, and team work.
6. Influencing people, including effective salesmanship and leadership.
7. Gathering information through various media.
8. Using quantitative tools, e.g., statistics, graphs, or spreadsheets.
9. Asking and answering the right questions, evaluating information, and applying knowledge.
10. Solving problems, including identifying problems, developing possible solutions, and launching solutions.

Update your Portfolio and see your Placement Specialist to update and receive a copy of your resume.

If your school has a community service requirement in order to graduate, be sure all of your documentation is completed and has been turned-in to your designated sending school person. Keep all verification documentation for scholarships for which you may apply that are based on exemplary service.

Meet with you're a Career Center staff member to complete the Exit Interview. This is your opportunity to be sure that you have everything in place for your post-secondary plans.

Complete the Delta Articulation forms with your instructor before your final day at the Career Center.