

# Individual Plans of Study



August 2016

## Kansas Leads the World in the Success of Each Student

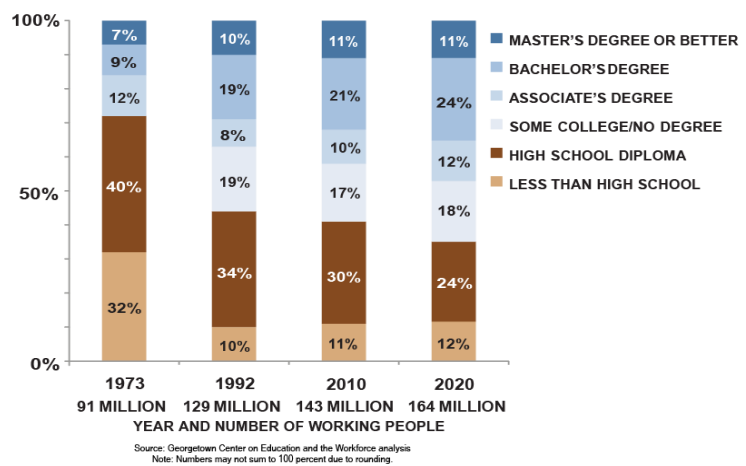
### Why are Individual Plans of Study important?

With a workforce increasingly requiring higher educational levels for jobs (see graph on right) coupled with a relatively low percentage of students *completing* a postsecondary credential (certificate through advanced degree), the learning and labor landscape has come to a crossroads.

To assist more students to complete a postsecondary credential and be competitive in the labor market, it's crucial to begin career exploration and planning earlier in students' educational experience. The Kansas State Board of Education has set an Individual Plan of Study (IPS) for every student beginning in the middle grades as one of their State Student Success Outcomes to help students plan for success after high school.

#### USA

EDUCATIONAL DEMAND FOR JOBS, VARIOUS YEARS



#### KANSAS

The educational demand for jobs in Kansas in 2020 will be 11 percent master's degree; 25 percent bachelor's degree, 35 percent associate's degree; and 29 percent high school diploma or less.

### What is an Individual Plan of Study?

An IPS is both the actual *product* a student develops and a *process* the school implements to guide students in developing their unique IPS.

Through multiple discussions with school counselors and administrators, KSDE has set the following as **minimum components of a student's Individual Plan of Study:**

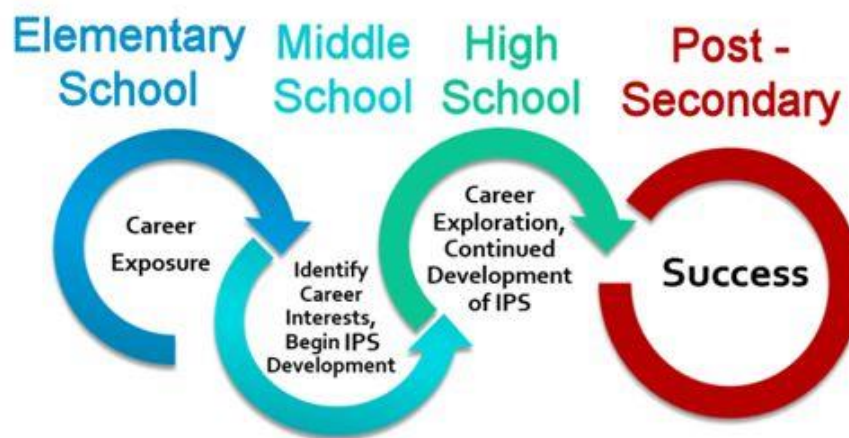
1. A graduated series of strength finders and career interest inventories to help students identify preference toward career clusters.
2. Eighth- through 12th-grade course builder function with course selections based on career interests.
3. A general postsecondary plan (workforce, military, certification program, two-year college, four-year college).
4. Portable electronic portfolio.

## How do schools guide a student to develop an IPS?

Regarding the process for an IPS, KSDE has categorized IPS processes into four different models currently being utilized or implemented by schools across the state:

1. **Counselor Centered (IPS curriculum implemented by counselor)**
2. **Career Advisor System (all school staff members implement IPS curriculum)**
3. **Career Advocates (individuals hired to implement IPS curriculum)**
4. **Hybrid (any combination of models 1-3)**

## K-12 Career Guidance Curriculum



## Additional information

Schools aren't required to use a vendor for an IPS product. Schools can create their own as long as the IPS product contains the four minimum components listed on the front page of this document.

By the 2017-2018 school year, every middle and high school in Kansas will have an IPS product and process in place.

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