

Descriptor Term: CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATIONS PROGRAM

Descriptor Code: IDAB

Rescinds:

Board Approved: 8/20/12

Previously Approved:

The Gulfport School District has created a Career Pathways Innovations Program. The purpose of this program is to provide all students with high level critical thinking, competency, communication, and technology skills.

The objectives of the program are as follows:^{1, 2}

- Provide students from grades 4-12 with a set of curriculum opportunities that include academic and career and technical education courses that are logical, challenging, and aligned to industry recognized and college readiness standards;
- Include opportunities for dual or articulated credit at the postsecondary level for all students;
- Lead to an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree, a certificate at the postsecondary level, or an industry-recognized technical education;
- Assist students in selecting their appropriate graduation pathway;
- Increase attendance rates, high school GPA, and scores on statewide tests in secondary schools;
- Decrease remediation at the postsecondary level; and
- Produce higher skilled employees in the workforce.

The Gulfport School District Career Pathways method of learning organizes instruction and student experiences around four mega career themes and 16 national career clusters.³ These career clusters encompass virtually all occupations from entry through professional level. Each student must have an Individual Career and Academic Plan (iCAP) that is personalized to meet each learner's educational and career goals. Each student will be required to earn a passing score in each of four subject-areas and meet the graduation requirements as stated in the Graduation Policy⁴ of the Gulfport School District.

This policy shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Mississippi Accreditation Standards and the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as amended with all other applicable federal and state laws.

¹ Drafted August 5, 2011 Mississippi Department of Education.

² March 17, 2012 Senate Bill 2389, amendment to section 37-16-17, MS code of 1972

³ In alignment with the Center for college and Career Readiness National 16 Career Clusters

⁴ Gulfport School District Graduation Requirements