

# KIDS **2** CAREERS



## GUIDING STEPS FOR FAMILIES

FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING GRADE LEVEL SUCCESS STEPS:

### Pre-K to 4th Grade

- Consider saving for the costs of education after high school using an [Alaska 529 Plan \(alaska529plan.com\)](http://alaska529plan.com)
- Spend time checking your student's homework each night
- Spend time getting to know your student's teachers and principal
- Read with your child each day; encourage them to read to you
- Review [Elementary/Middle School Student Success Steps](#) with your student

### 5th & 6th Grade

- Engage with your student about what they are learning
- Encourage your student to pursue after-school & extracurricular activities
- Seek out tutoring options if your student is having difficulty in math or reading
- Continue saving for the costs of education after high school using an [Alaska 529 Plan \(alaska529plan.com\)](http://alaska529plan.com)
- Review [Elementary/Middle School Student Success Steps](#) with your student

### 7th & 8th Grade

- Talk with your student about what they are learning
- Encourage your student to pursue after-school & extracurricular activities
- Seek out tutoring options if your student is having difficulty academically
- Continue saving for education after high school using an [Alaska 529 Plan \(alaska529plan.com\)](http://alaska529plan.com)
- Encourage your student to participate in school clubs and/or sports
- Seek out spring break and summer career exploration activities
- Review [Elementary/Middle School Student Success Steps](#) with your student

### 9th & 10th Grade

- Consider enrolling your student in the [PSAT 8-9 & PSAT10](#) to provide a practice test opportunity
- Talk with your student about their interests, favorite subjects, areas where they need assistance
- Encourage your student to pursue after-school & extracurricular activities
- Seek out tutoring options if your student is having difficulty academically
- Encourage your student to participate in school clubs, sports, and leadership activities
- Continue saving for education after high school using an [Alaska 529 Plan \(alaska529plan.com\)](http://alaska529plan.com)
- Encourage part-time employment and career exploration programs/job shadowing
- Review [Freshman/Sophomore Student Success Steps](#) with your student



# KIDS 2 CAREERS

## Continued: GUIDING STEPS FOR FAMILIES

### 11th Grade

- Help your student enroll in the October [PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test \(NMSQT\)](#)
- Contact the [ACPE Success Center](#) ([acpe.alaska.gov](http://acpe.alaska.gov)) to explore options (college, vocational, apprenticeship, certifications)
- Talk with your student about their interests, favorite subjects, and future interests
- Encourage your student to pursue after-school & extracurricular activities
- Seek out tutoring options if your student is having difficulty academically
- Encourage your student to participate in school clubs, sports, and leadership activities
- Continue saving for education after high school using an [Alaska 529 Plan](#) ([alaska529plan.com](http://alaska529plan.com))
- Encourage part-time employment and career exploration programs/job shadowing
- Help your student sign up to take the [SAT /ACT](#) the summer before Senior Year; encourage a study plan
- Discuss education costs; help your student narrow education choices using ACPE [Planning Templates](#)
- Review [Junior Success Steps](#) with your student and help them set goals/deadlines

### 12th Grade

- Help your student review, narrow down, and finalize educational programs; including fit and finances
- Remind your student of deadlines for programs of interest; ask them to share their digital calendar
- Offer to help your student find answers to questions; Your support in the process is helpful and inspiring
- Request your [FSA ID](#) & gather tax documents from 2 years prior; Remind your student to do the same
- Complete the family portion of the [FAFSA](#) ([studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)) in Dec./Jan.; [CSS Profiler](#) if required for private institutions
- Ensure all deadlines are met for payments and any other required items
- Review with your student, [Federal](#) and [low cost state loan options from ACPE](#) for students and families
- Help your student request available [Alaska 529](#) ([alaska529plan.com](http://alaska529plan.com)) distributions 2-3 weeks before payment deadlines
- Discuss with your student whether any forms should be signed allowing your assistance with financial, medical or academic matters; Permission is required to receive information once your student is 18
- Ensure you have a good mailing address for your student when they move away from home
- Review: [Senior Checklist](#), [College Prep Overview](#), & [Planning Templates](#); help them set goals/deadlines