

What is Academic & Career Planning?



View DPI ACP Video - Tony Evers, State Superintendent:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4zalFqeRGI>

Background Knowledge

- Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction (DPI) envisions that every student will graduate prepared for college and their career. What does that mean? College and career readiness is much more than academics. Wisconsin graduates must have the knowledge, skills, and habits that will allow them to succeed in the workforce after high school. Wisconsin students should be able to think critically, collaborate, demonstrate leadership, use creativity, accept responsibility, and maintain problem-solving skills throughout their lifetime.
- In Wisconsin, DPI defines Academic and Career Planning (ACP) as a student-driven, adult-supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique and information-based vision for post-secondary success, obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills.
- In ACP, counselors, teachers, parents, and others provide regular and ongoing guidance and mentoring to students over a period of years.
- The process of creating the plan is more important than the plan itself. Why? Because even

though a student's goals will change over time, going through the ACP process has the power to engage students in their learning, and to help them develop skills for self-awareness and planning.

- ACP is based on the student's interests, abilities, values, and goals.
- ACP provides students and parents with the information needed to make informed choices for comparing and selecting courses and experiences related to future education, training, and careers.
- The process of ACP moves FROM a single goal of getting all students into 'college' TO equipping students to connect their strengths and interests to potential careers, and then comparing the best post-secondary options, with their families, to find the best fit for those personal goals. ACP recognizes that people often move in and out of different routes throughout their lives, as needed, whether they be military, apprenticeship, certification, technical college, university, or straight into the world of work.
- School districts may already be doing some of the activities related to ACP (such as conferencing, career exploration, career interest inventories, intentional course sequencing, etc.).
- ACP needs everyone to support students in the process, including academic teachers, school administrators, community members, and parents