High School Planning Guide
Poudre School District

Get a head start on your future

Whether your plans for life after graduation include a two-year or four-year college, military service, heading straight into the workforce - or you’re hoping to figure out what you want to do next in high school - PSD has options for you.

PSD is Northern Colorado's premier school system for career and college readiness, with multiple CTE options and more than half of PSD students graduating with free college credit. Use this guide to find your right fit!

Explore pathways, graduate with options

- Earn multiple college credits at no cost to you or your family
- Learn job-ready skills through rigorous CTE options
- Explore several career pathways and discover your true calling
- Earn credits through work-based learning with 225+ businesses to choose from
- Graduate high school with an associate degree
- Take your first year of college courses while PSD covers tuition

1,106 PSD students earned credit for a work-based learning experience
628 CTE industry certifications earned by PSD students
2,175 PSD students took at least one AP course
3,332 PSD students took college classes
98% graduation rate for students who take four or more courses in one of the PSD pathways

*Data for 2022-23
### CTE and Career Pathways:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pathway</th>
<th>Centennial</th>
<th>Fort Collins</th>
<th>Fossil Ridge</th>
<th>Futures Lab</th>
<th>Poudre</th>
<th>Polaris</th>
<th>Rocky Mountain</th>
<th>Timnath</th>
<th>Wellington</th>
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<td>Agriculture (includes animal and plant science and AG mechanics)</td>
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<td>Automotive &amp; Transportation (includes automotive and bike tech mechanic pathways)</td>
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<td>Aviation &amp; Drones</td>
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<td>Computer Science (includes coding and cybersecurity)</td>
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<td>Culinary &amp; Hospitality (includes culinary programming and ProStart)</td>
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<td>Design &amp; Multimedia Arts (includes audio production and graphic design)</td>
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<td>Education &amp; Training (includes education and early childhood)</td>
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<td>Engineering (includes engineering and the STEM Academy at Fossil Ridge)</td>
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<td>Health Science (includes health science and behavioral health)</td>
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<td>Interior &amp; Fashion Design</td>
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<td>Natural Resource Management (includes natural resources and outdoor recreation)</td>
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<td>Production &amp; Managerial Arts (includes technical theater)</td>
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<td>Welding &amp; Manufacturing</td>
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Explore your future career at [www.psdfutureready.org/careerpathways](http://www.psdfutureready.org/careerpathways)

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**Futures Lab**

Explore career pathways you won’t find anywhere else at the Futures Lab. The Futures Lab is housed at Poudre High School but is open to all in PSD, with transportation provided to those coming from other PSD high schools.

More information is available at [fut.psdschools.org](http://fut.psdschools.org)

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**Want to learn more about your options?**

Visit the Future Ready Center
Located at Foothills
215 E. Foothills Parkway, # 510

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**Interested in a military career?**

Consider joining the new Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program at Poudre High and learn more about taking the ASVAB test at [www.psdfutureready.org/military/](http://www.psdfutureready.org/military/)

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**Interested in what clubs and organizations are available at Poudre School District?**

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Some of the programs designed to help PSD students prepare for college are listed below. Several programs have opportunities for earning college credits along the way at no cost to students or their families.

**Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment (ASCENT):** Defer your diploma for an extra year and spend your fifth year of high school taking college courses at no cost to you.

**Advanced Placement (AP):** Take one or more of the many college-level AP courses offered in PSD. Earning a good score on an AP exam can earn you college credit or allow you to skip certain courses in college.

**Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID):** This program helps raise the achievement and chances of college success for underrepresented students through increased support and rigorous expectations.

**Associate Degree Pathway:** Earn an associate degree while still in high school without having to pay tuition.

**Concurrent Enrollment:** Earn college credits by taking college courses on a college campus or taking college courses by specially trained teachers at your high school.

**International Baccalaureate (IB):** The IB Diploma is a rigorous, globally recognized degree that prepares students for college - students graduate with 24 credits already earned toward their future college degree.

**Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (PTECH):** Poudre High is one of an exclusive number of high schools in Colorado offering PTECH. Students earn an associate's in manufacturing and industry experience while in high school.

**Teacher Recruitment Education & Preparation (TREP):** Use a fifth and sixth year of high school to take college courses for future educators.

Learn how you can prep for college and earn free credits at [www.psdfutureready.org/collegecredit](http://www.psdfutureready.org/collegecredit)
Participate in career tours, internships, job shadowing, resume building, capstone projects, and more to gain credits and on-the-job experience, network with potential employers, and learn what it’s really like to work in different industries before committing to a college major or job pathway. Work-based learning opportunities also include:

**Apprenticeships** – Spend part of the week working in an apprenticeship position through CareerWise, Columbine Health, or Neuworks Plumbing to earn credit, pay, and real-world experience.

**Capstone Project** – Complete a project based on what you’ve learned in class with the aid of a local mentor.

**Credit-for-work** – Earn high school credit for working a part-time job.

Learn more about on-the-job experiences at [www.psdfutureready.org/wbl](http://www.psdfutureready.org/wbl)

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**Integrated Services:**

**Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE)** - Students, including students identified as special populations, experience developmentally appropriate career programming.

**School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP)** – Young people ages 15-24 with mild to moderate employment barriers work to become job ready through work-based learning, career exploration, learning how to write resumes, and more.

Student attendance in any of the following pathways is an IEP team decision. Learn more at [www.psdschools.org/programs-services/integrated-services/transition-resources](http://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/integrated-services/transition-resources) or contact Aaron Vogt at [avogt@psdschools.org](mailto:avogt@psdschools.org)

**Collaboration Among Many Promotes Universal Success (CAMPUS)** – Students 18-21 receiving Integrated Services support travel to Colorado State University twice a week to build independent living skills and explore opportunities in the community.

**Community Connections** – Students 18-21 with significant learning needs work on foundational skills to help them transition from high school to adult living.

**Cooper Home** – Students ages 18-21 receiving Integrated Services support learn work-related skills, prepare for independent living, learn to navigate agency services, and build daily living and social skills.

**Project Search** – Students in their final year of receiving Integrated Services support from PSD embark on a yearlong internship with the goal of securing a paid, permanent job.
Explore Our Schools:

Centennial High School
330 E. Laurel St.
970-488-4940
chs.psdschools.org

Fort Collins High School
3400 Lambkin Way
970-488-8021
fch.psdschools.org

Fossil Ridge High School
5400 Ziegler Road
970-488-6260
frh.psdschools.org

Futures Lab
201 Impala Drive
970-488-4400
fut.psdschools.org

Polaris Expeditionary Learning School
1905 Orchard Place
970-488-8260
pol.psdschools.org

Poudre Community Academy
2540 LaPorte Ave.
970-490-3295
pca.psdschools.org

Poudre High School
201 Impala Drive
970-488-6000
phs.psdschools.org

Poudre School District Global Academy
703 E. Prospect Road
970-490-3086
pga.psdschools.org

Rocky Mountain High School
1300 W. Swallow Road
970-488-7023
rmh.psdschools.org

Timnath Middle-High School
4700 E. Prospect Road
970-419-3400
tmh.psdschools.org

Wellington Middle-High School
2856 Cleveland Ave., Wellington
970-472-2700
wel.psdschools.org

Questions?
• Contact your school counselor or Work-based Learning Coordinator.
• Contact Career and Innovation Director Tanya Alcaraz
talcaraz@psdschools.org
• Need help with translations? Families and students may contact their family liaison.

Poudre School District
2407 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 970-482-7420
www.psdschools.org