

Career Life Plan Graduation Plan

THINKING, EXPLORING AND EXPERIENCING POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS

A Career Life Plan is a comprehensive education, career, and life plan that documents the learning needs, interests, and aspirations and showcases the accomplishments of each learner.

A Career Life Plan can be developed through three big ideas: Thinking, Exploring, and Experiencing. The big ideas are based on OECD (2021) research that shows that engagement in meaningful Career Connected Learning opportunities provides learners with the chance to share, develop, and store evidence of learnings, interests, and accomplishments ([OECD Career Readiness Project, 2021](#).)

THINKING ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS: Developing an informed vision for the future linked to a learner's interests, preferences, values, and abilities.

EXPLORING POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS: Critically investigating the labour market and career pathways that learners can expect to find most fulfilling.

EXPERIENCING POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS: Learning about career pathways of interest by engaging in frequent and ongoing Career Connected Experiential Learning.

The provincial platform, myBlueprint, is a comprehensive career planning and ePortfolio tool that is accessible to all learners and their families. This platform supports documentation of accomplishments and learning through digital inventories, artifacts, and evidence. Alternative methods for showcasing artifacts and evidence for thinking, exploring, and experiencing can be determined by schools. Learners play a primary role in developing their Career Life Plan to meet the graduation requirement. Research suggests that this supports a learner's sense of agency.

A Career Life Plan is a graduation requirement starting in June of 2026. It is recommended that each school consider their context and strengths, identify what they already do, and leverage it to intentionally support learners in the development of their own Career Life Plan. See the recommended roles and responsibilities (APPENDIX A) and suggested sequence of career life learning opportunities (APPENDIX B).

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE CAREER LIFE PLAN GRADUATION REQUIREMENT FOR GRADE 12

(ENTERED IN THE CUM FILE AND CHECKED IN POWERSCHOOL FOR THE TRANSCRIPT)

The checklist below describes what every learner must complete to satisfy the minimum standards for the Career Life Plan Graduation Requirement for Grade 12. Schools have the autonomy to determine how to best demonstrate achievement of these requirements based on their unique contexts, strengths, and learner needs.

Schools will find many ideas and examples of how these requirements can be met by accessing the myBlueprint program at myBlueprint.ca. APPENDIX B provides examples of how schools could use the activities and resources that already exist in myBlueprint. For further ideas, schools should review the [New Brunswick Career Education Framework](#).

THINKING EVIDENCE OR ARTIFACT:

- Create a **goal** to show preparation for life beyond high school.
- Develop an **action plan** to work towards a career pathway.
- Develop a **financial plan** that considers life beyond high school.

EXPLORING EVIDENCE OR ARTIFACT:

- Complete the **five assessments** in myBlueprint. Assessments include Learning Styles, Personality, Interest Survey, Knowledge, and Motivation.
- Identify two or more career life **pathways of interest**.
- Identify post-secondary **pathways connected to a Career Life Plan**.

EXPERIENCING EVIDENCE OR ARTIFACT:

- Develop **resume writing** skills.
- Develop **cover letter** writing skills.
- Engage in an **interview** opportunity.
- Participate in an **authentic Career Connected Experiential Learning** opportunity.
- Engage in a **student-led conference** of the completed Career Life Plan.

Appendix A:

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CAREER LIFE PLAN GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

(A letter will be drafted for schools to share with families.)

LEARNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own their Career Life Plan • Complete a Career Life Plan with evidence of learning. • Reflect upon the included artifacts and personal growth. • Meet with the School Counsellor or designate(s) in Grade 12 to review the Career Life Plan. • Monitor graduation pathway completion (myBlueprint, Grades 10-12 (gnb.ca)).
EDUCATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate Career Connected Learning activities in your subject area that allow for completion of grade level Career Life Plan tasks. • Encourage learners to record documentation, artifacts, and evidence of Career Life Plan graduation requirements. • Monitor and refer learners when additional supports are required. • Review and recommend use of your learners' digital portfolio as part of your instruction and curriculum.
COUNSELLORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have conversations with every Grade 12 learner to assess the completed version of the Career Life Plan for transition. • Provide ongoing scaffolding and support for learners in Grades 9-12.
ADMINISTRATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion the value of career pathway transition planning for all learners. (Consider embedding learning over time – see suggestions below). • Work with your team to determine the structure(s) that will support completion of the Career Life Plan. • Provide the necessary resources to support implementation and ongoing monitoring. • Review and sign (or assign to a designate) each student's transcript to confirm successful completion of the graduation requirements, including the Career Life Plan

Appendix B:

HOW CAN SCHOOL STAFF GET MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM THE CAREER LIFE PLAN?

There are a variety of ways that learning towards the Career Life Plan could be embedded: homeroom activities, Personal Wellness Grades 6-9, a whole-school career focus for a half-day each semester, and other activities that best suit the school context.

The table below provides a suggested sequence organized by grade levels for schools that wish to make decisions regarding embedding this learning for maximum benefit over time. Grade 6-8 suggestions are included for the benefit of schools that have a Grades 6-12 team. The work on Career Life Planning can be used to influence lifelong learning and well-being, and increase relevance in subject area curricula. The research provided in the New Brunswick Career Education Framework supports embedding this work throughout the curriculum to improve engagement.

1. **THINKING about my potential career pathway:** Developing an informed vision for the future linked to my interests, preference, values and abilities.
2. **EXPLORING my potential career pathway:** Critically investigating the labour market and career pathways that I can expect to find most fulfilling.
3. **EXPERIENCING my potential career pathway:** Learning about career pathways of interest by engaging in frequent and ongoing Career Connected Experiential Learning.

GRADE	THINKING	EXPLORING	EXPERIENCING
6	<p>Create a personal digital Career Life Plan digital portfolio using myBlueprint. Add a photo and banner.</p> <p>Add one personal and one school SMART goal related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how each goal will help you to work on your Career Life Plan (i.e., personal wellness, teamwork, problem solving, communication, good decision making).</i></p>	<p>What is your favorite subject area to learn?</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: How does this influence your decisions about your preferred future?</i></p> <p>Add a profession of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this profession relates to your interests, skills, and abilities.</i></p>	<p>Create an artifact of your hobbies, qualities, and extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself?</i></p> <p>Participate in a peer conversation or interview - Who am I?</p> <p>What are my interests and hobbies, skills, strengths?</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself through this experience?</i></p> <p>Have a career pathway conversation with a trusted adult family member, friend, mentor, or school staff about their career/life journey.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn? How may their journey be different or similar to yours?</i></p>
7	<p>Add one personal and one school SMART goal related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how each goal will help you to work on your Career Life Plan (i.e., personal wellness, teamwork, problem solving, communication, good decision making).</i></p> <p>Write a journal entry on your school habits, time management, and study methods.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What is working well for you? What do you want to improve?</i></p>	<p>Complete the Learning Styles Survey.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this knowledge impacts your plan for your preferred future.</i></p> <p>Add a profession of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this profession relates to your learning style, interests, skills, and abilities.</i></p> <p>Add a post about a post-secondary education and/or training option of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this knowledge impacts your thinking for your preferred future.</i></p>	<p>Participate in a student-led conversation with a trusted adult about your Career Life Plan (i.e., Caregiver, Mentor, Teacher, Elder).</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how engaging in and contributing to family, community, hobbies, and extra-curricular activities helps you learn about your interests.</i></p> <p>Create an artifact of your learning styles, multiple intelligences, strengths, and challenges.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how these relate to your career pathways of interest. What do you now think about that may impact your career pathway choices?</i></p>

GRADE	THINKING	EXPLORING	EXPERIENCING
8	<p>Add two SMART goals related to your transition to high school and to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how each goal will help you to transition and your Career Life Plan (i.e., personal wellness, teamwork, problem solving, communication, good decision making).</i></p> <p>Write a journal entry about your plan for transitioning to high school.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What are you most looking forward to in high school? What is your vision? How will you manage stress? How will you access supports to thrive?</i></p> <p>Plan your high school courses.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Why have you made the choices you have? How do they relate to your Career Life Plan? Your interests, skills, abilities, and passions?</i></p>	<p>Complete the Personality Survey.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? How does this impact your plans for high school and your preferred future? How do your personality and values impact your career pathway interests?</i></p> <p>Add a profession of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how labour market information may impact this career pathway. Would this pathway support standard and non-standard options for employment?</i></p> <p>Add a new post about possible post-secondary education and/or training options for a career pathway of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how what you are learning in school relates to the skills and qualifications needed to pursue this career pathway of interest.</i></p> <p>Create a Basic Budget (needs and wants).</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how creating a budget can inform career pathway planning.</i></p>	<p>Student-led conference/ presentation of your Career Life Plan and journal entry.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this experience has impacted your learning. What have you learned to date about your preferences, interests, skills, strengths, challenges, learning styles, multiple intelligences, and goals? What are you most proud of? What is working well for you? What do you want to improve? Have there been changes over your middle school years?</i></p> <p>Create a resume</p> <p>Include at least five skills and abilities, and two areas of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did this teach you about yourself? What did you learn about creating resumes? How will this impact your career pathway planning?</i></p>
9	<p>Plan your Grade 10, 11, and 12 courses.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Why have you made the choices you have? How do they relate to your Career Life Plan? Your interests, skills, abilities, and passions?</i></p> <p>Add two school/academic and two personal goals related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how each of the goals relate to your Career Life Plan. What skills will these goals help you to develop?</i></p>	<p>Complete the Interests Survey. Identify your values.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? How may your interests and values impact your Career Life Plan? What do you notice about your preferred career clusters?</i></p> <p>Add at least one new profession of interest.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: Explain how this profession relates to your interests, skills, and abilities. Have your career choices changed? What qualifications will you need to achieve this career pathway?</i></p>	<p>Update your resume.</p> <p>Include at least five skills and abilities, two areas of interest, and two extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>→<i>Reflection: What did you learn from updating your resume? How are you maturing? What types of work may be soon available to you? How will you incorporate labour market information into this process?</i></p>

GRADE	THINKING	EXPLORING	EXPERIENCING
		<p>Add a new post-secondary education and/or training option for a career pathway of interest.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflections: Are there any barriers that you or others might face to pursue this pathway? What supports are available to help people overcome potential barriers?</i></p> <p>Add a post about a volunteer work opportunity of interest available to adolescents.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Explain how volunteering can assist with career pathway decision-making.</i></p>	<p>Create a cover letter.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn from creating a cover letter? How will this impact your career pathway planning?</i></p> <p>Add a post about a Career Connected Learning real-world opportunity you have had or would like to have (volunteering, workplace visit, virtual fieldtrip, Take Our Kids to Work Day, etc.).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How does this experience impact your choices moving forward? What have you learned about yourself?</i></p>
10	<p>Plan your Grade 11 and 12 courses.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Why have you made the choices you have? How do they relate to your Career Life Plan? Your interests, skills, abilities, and passions? Entry requirements for a post-secondary pathway?</i></p> <p>Review your previous SMART goals. Add one school/academic and one personal goal related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Explain how each of the goals relate to your Career Life Plan. What skills will these goals help you to develop?</i></p>	<p>Complete the Knowledge Survey.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? How may your strengths impact your Career Life Plan?</i></p> <p>Add at least one new profession of interest</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Explain how this profession relates to your interests, skills, abilities. How is access to this profession equitable? How does labour market information impact this profession? What qualifications will you need to achieve this career pathway?</i></p> <p>Add at least one post-secondary pathway of interest.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What does this tell you about course selection and planning? What will you need to do to achieve this post-secondary pathway? How could experiential Career Connected Learning opportunities build competencies and skills to support this pathway?</i></p>	<p>Update your resume.</p> <p>Add an objective and any experiential activities (volunteer or work-related experiences). Include at least five skills and abilities, two areas of interest, and two extra-curricular activities</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What have you learned since you first created your resume? What has changed? How do standard and non-standard forms of employment impact this process?</i></p> <p>Create an additional cover letter.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What have you learned since you created your previous cover letter? How will you incorporate labour market information into this process?</i></p> <p>Include a post about an experiential Career Connected Learning real-world opportunity you have had (e.g., Virtual career fair, Volunteering, part-time job, summer work, job shadowing, site visit, etc.).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How does this experience impact your choices moving forward?</i></p>

GRADE	THINKING	EXPLORING	EXPERIENCING
			<p>Complete a mock or real application (e.g., for a job, post-secondary, or membership).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? What, if any, barriers did you notice? Is this application accessible to underrepresented people?</i></p>
11	<p>Plan your Grade 12 courses.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Why have you made the choices you have? How do they relate to your Career Life Plan? Your interests, skills, abilities, and passions? Graduation requirements? Entry requirements for post-secondary?</i></p> <p>Create a preliminary financial budget related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about creating a budget specific to your Career Life Plan choices. How is this helpful? How will this impact your planning?</i></p>	<p>Complete the Motivation and Compatibility Surveys.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? How may this impact your Career Life Plan?</i></p> <p>Add at least one new profession of interest.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Explain how this profession relates to your interests, skills, and abilities. Have your career choices changed? If so, what adjustments will you need to make? What, if any, discriminatory practices might exist in this profession, and how might this impact you?</i></p> <p>Add at least one post-secondary pathway of interest.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What does this tell you about course selection and planning? What will you need to do to achieve this post-secondary pathway? How will you adjust your plans and actions accordingly?</i></p>	<p>Participate in a mock interview with a peer or a trusted adult.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself?</i></p> <p>Complete an additional mock or real application</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself? What, if any, barriers did you face? What, if any, supports did you need to do this?</i></p> <p>Update your resume. Add an objective and any experiential activities (volunteer or work experiences). Include at least five skills and abilities, two areas of interest, and two extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How will you use this resume and adjust it based on your plans and goals? Where are there strengths? Are there gaps? Who can provide a reference for you?</i></p> <p>Create a tailored cover letter.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about creating a tailored cover letter? How will you use or adapt this letter in future?</i></p>
12	<p>Using the Goal feature, create a broken-down task list showing how you will prepare for next year.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What do you need to do? What unexpected challenges might you experience? How will you adjust and/or overcome these challenges?</i></p>	<p>Write a journal entry about your professional network.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Who can you access for support? Who can be a reference for you? Who are your Career Life Plan contacts? What have you learned about the importance of networking relationships?</i></p>	<p>Participate in a real interview or a mock interview (could be for an employment or volunteer opportunity, or for a post-secondary application).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What did you learn about yourself from this experience? How have you become more confident</i></p>

GRADE	THINKING	EXPLORING	EXPERIENCING
	<p>Refine your financial budget related to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: What, if any, adjustments do you need to make to your budget? How will you overcome financial challenges should they arise? How will this impact your planning?</i></p>	<p>Link a preferred profession to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How would you achieve this career? How would you prepare for potential challenges?</i></p> <p>Link a post-secondary pathway to your Career Life Plan.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Explain your pathway choices and how they will help you achieve your Career Life Plan.</i></p>	<p>Update your resume.</p> <p>Add two achievements. Include at least five skills and abilities, two areas of interest, two extra-curricular activities, an objective, any experiential activities (i.e., volunteer, paid work, site visits, virtual opportunities, conversations, or work-integrated learning experiences).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How has your resume changed? How have you grown? What will be your plan for continued updates?</i></p> <p>Include a post about a experiential Career Connected Learning real-world opportunity you have had in an area of interest. (e.g., volunteering, part-time job, co-op, post-secondary visit, job site visit, work-integrated learning, Centres of Excellence, etc.).</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: How does this experience help inform your Career Life Plan?</i></p> <p>Present your Career Life Plan portfolio and journal entry.</p> <p>→ <i>Reflection: Complete a self-assessment of your portfolio and presentation. Reflect on your Career Life Plan portfolio and all you have learned about yourself. What are you most proud of?</i></p>

References

Career Connected Learning K-12 (GNB) [Career Connected Learning](#)

[New Brunswick Career Education Framework](#)