



Career and College Readiness Alignment



BestPrep's **Cloud Coach** program helps schools fulfill their Career and College Readiness (CCR) goals, as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education.

Employability Skills

- **Communication** - Practicing written and verbal communication skills
- **Creativity** - Brainstorming talents and how those skills can be helpful for a career
- **Critical Thinking** - Comprehending mentors' messages and writing thoughtful responses back



Mindsets & Social Awareness

- **Growth Mindset** - Thinking of mistakes and failures as opportunities to improve for the future
- **Relationship Skills** - Developing relationships and learning about mentors' backgrounds
- **Cultural Fluency & Global Awareness** - Learning about company cultures and values
- **Self-Management** - Setting goals to accomplish in the next several months
- **Decision-Making** - Creating a clear path to future goals and acting now to achieve objectives
- **Self-Advocacy** - Confidently acting on interests and talents to reach approaching goals



Career Development

- **Career Awareness** - Learning from business volunteers about job opportunities
- **Exploration** - Visiting mentors' work sites and experiencing office tours



Transitional Knowledge

- **Career Field & Postsecondary Entrance Requirements and Options** - Seeing the value in graduating high school, learning about careers, and understanding mentors' experiences





Career and College Readiness Alignment

BestPrep's Cloud Coach program helps schools fulfill their Career and College Readiness goals, as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education.



Employability Skills

- Communication
 - Cloud Coach encourages students to connect with their mentors by sharing more about themselves and finding common ground. Students work on written communication via email and practice verbal communication via the in-person Cloud Summit.
- Creativity
 - Students are asked to think creatively and imagine possible outcomes of their futures. They brainstorm skills and talents they already have and how that can be helpful for a career.
 - Students take insight & knowledge they've gained through the program and apply it to an onsite experience that encourages them to develop ideas & new ways of thinking about their academic & career paths.
- Critical Thinking
 - Students read their mentors' messages, comprehend the message, and write a response back that includes answering and asking questions, sharing their perspectives, and comparing that to their mentors' experiences.



Career Development

- Career Awareness
 - Students connect with a business volunteer mentor from a local Fortune 500 Company. They hear from guest speakers from the company before the program starts to learn more about the many job opportunities available.
- Exploration
 - In the first week of the program, mentors share what their day-to-day careers look like. Students visit the work site mid-way through the program to meet their mentors in person, get a tour of the office, and spend time at their mentors' desks.



Transitional Knowledge

- Career Field and Postsecondary Entrance Requirements and Options
 - Mentors talk with students about potential careers and the skills and entrance requirements to access that career. Mentors are able to build off of their own experiences to help students see the value in graduating from high school and completing a post-secondary degree.



Mindsets & Social Awareness

- Growth Mindset
 - Students learn from their mentors about overcoming failures and mistakes. Mentors encourage students to think of mistakes and failures as opportunities to improve for the future by sharing examples from their own lives.
- Relationship Skills
 - Cloud Coach helps students develop a relationship with their mentors, who come from a variety of backgrounds that may not necessarily reflect the students. The program encourages them to learn about each other's experiences, families, cultures, and backgrounds.
- Cultural Fluency & Global Awareness
 - Cloud Coach connects students with Fortune 500 Companies, many of which have a strong global presence and impact people all over the globe. Mentors also have the opportunity to talk about their companies' cultures and value within their company-community.
- Self-Management
 - Students think about how they spend their time, finding ways to act now to impact their future. In the later part of the program, students are asked to set a goal to accomplish in the next several months.
- Decision-Making
 - Mentors encourage students to think about their future plans. By the end of the program, many students will have a clearer path to their futures and have made decisions on how to act now to get there.
- Self-Advocacy
 - Mentors encourage students to confidently act on their interests, wants, talents, and future goals.