

Maine Definitions

Program of Study (POS)

A Program of Study is a planned sequence of courses that:

- ◆ integrates high quality core academic knowledge with technical and occupational skills and knowledge in a coordinated, non-duplicative, progression of courses;
- ◆ provides secondary students with an aligned pathway to postsecondary education and career goals;
- ◆ creates partnerships between secondary and postsecondary education;
- ◆ may include opportunities for the secondary student to participate in credit bearing articulated programs (dual, escrow, or enhanced) or other ways to acquire postsecondary education credits; and
- ◆ leads students to an industry recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

The model for Maine's POS includes Career Clusters, Career Pathways, Program Requirements and Personal Learning Plans.

NOTE: Those schools using Federal Perkins IV funding must comply with the requirement that funds are only spent on Career and Technical programs and students.

Career Clusters

16 Nationally developed groupings of occupations and industries that have similar core elements.

Career Pathways

Career Pathways narrow and specify a broad cluster grouping; they include related occupations that have similar core elements. Each career cluster has 2-7 different career pathways.

Program Requirements

Specific coursework determined by a school that guides students through a secondary to postsecondary career pathway.

Personal Learning Plan (PLP)

An individualized program of study guided by the schools' program requirements, grades 9-16+