GRADE 6  THE JOURNEY BEGINS
What do you like to do? Work with your hands? Play with computers? Speak in front of large groups?
Connect your interests to all sorts of careers.
Ask your teachers or a counselor about different ways to explore careers like interest tests and online tools.

GRADE 7  CHECK THE MAP
It’s time to get active.
Do some community service, play sports, join clubs or scouting. Key skills like teamwork and communication start here.
Research industries in Houston, the careers within them and what type of education you need after high school.

GRADE 8  SET THE COURSE
You know, you’ve got choices:
High school endorsements, dual credit, early college high school, career and technical education—talk to your teachers, counselors and parents or guardians about what works best for you.
Continue community service and extracurricular activities to pick up new skills and refine the ones you’re building.

GRADE 9  HIT THE ROAD
You chose an endorsement, so now what?
Take courses that interest you like Career and Technical Education
Join a Career Technical Student Organizations and other organized activities—sharpen those skills!
Get a part-time or summer job to develop skills and put spending money in your pocket.
Begin to explore your options by visiting two postsecondary schools (community/technical college or university) or training providers.

GRADE 10  GAS ‘ER UP
You’re on the right track! While you’re at it . . .
Ask your school about job shadowing and internship opportunities you can participate in.
Visit two additional postsecondary training and education schools/institutions
Visit your local bank and open a checking and savings account.

GRADE 11  KEEP TRUCKIN’
Nice experience on your resume… you’re almost there!
Have you thought about:
Those tests? Get with your counselor on the right tests to take (PSAT, SAT, ACT, TSI).
Dual credit courses? A great way to get ahead in both career and core courses.
Your plan after high school? Most careers require some sort of education and/or training after high school. Research all the choices including apprenticeships, certificate and associate degree programs, and four year universities.
Paying for school? Explore financial scholarships, grants, and loans and understand the process to apply.
Who can help? Get with your counselor or advisor ASAP!
GRADE 12  PEDAL TO THE METAL

This is it. Time to make it happen!

Obtain any initial certifications related to career choice through Career and Technical Education courses.

Keep a part-time job, get an internship, take leadership roles in organizations, and continue extracurricular activities.


Complete entrance exams and admissions requirements by December.

Fill out the FAFSA for federal financial aid by December.

Apply for available scholarships and financial aid all year long.

Complete all graduation requirements.

POSTSECONDARY  TAKE IT HOME

Learning and Earning.

You’ve graduated high school, but it doesn’t stop there. You should be in one of the following:

• Training Program
• Apprenticeship
• Certificate Program
• Two-year Degree Program
• The Military
• Four-year College or University
• In a job with a clear career path.
WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

UPSKILLHOUSTON.org