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| CAREER CRUISER | Choosing a Postsecondary Training Provider |

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| **Step 4** | Make a Personalized Career and Academic Plan (PCAP) |
| **Driving Question** | Which postsecondary training provider(s) are right for me and my career goals? |
| **Goal** | Make a list of postsecondary training providers to apply to |
| **Standard** | Describe which credentials are relevant to their career pathway. (CR.2.2) |

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| **FOR TEACHERS** |

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| **Timeframe** | 1 to 2 roughly hour-long lessons. |
| **Materials** | If students have completed sufficient research prior to this module, then the work can be done on paper. If students need more time to research, then internet access and digital devices will be needed. |
| **Xello** | [Xello](https://xello.world/en/florida-college-career-ready/), Florida’s official K-12 public school career planning and work-based learning coordination system, has tools you can use on this topic! On each school profile page you can favorite the school by pressing the heart icon on the page. Then, you can view your full list of favorited schools by clicking the heart icon by your profile picture at the top right. Under ‘Home’ and ‘View All Lessons,’ consider having students complete the ‘Choosing a College’ lesson. |
| **Overview** | **Beginning*** Let students know that they will be prioritizing today to pick their top three options for postsecondary training. This prioritization will be based on the student’s prior research on information, data and experiences related to the postsecondary training options.

**Middle*** Students will reflect on key questions as well as the pros and cons of each of their top postsecondary training providers.

**End*** Have students pair up and discuss the extremes of their preferred list of postsecondary training providers – which two are the most different and why.

**Extension*** Have students research and create profiles for their top five postsecondary training providers. For each, list their pros and cons.
* Have students research the following topics for their top pick for a postsecondary training provider: What is daily life like as a student? What is the hardest part of a student’s life? What’s the best part? Students can submit as an essay, a class presentation or as links/videos they found on the web.
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| **FOR STUDENTS** |

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| **Learn** |

**Choosing a Training Provider**

For many students, graduating high school marks a major educational shift – you will now be in charge of making numerous, significant educational decisions. Choosing a training provider, such as an apprenticeship, technical college, state or community college, or university, can be a big decision involving many factors. Below are a few important matters to consider.

**Location**

* **In-state vs. out-of-state –** Do you want to move to experience a particular training provider or is living in-state (which typically has more affordable tuition rates) more important?
* **Urban vs. Rural** – Do you prefer to live in a big city, in a rural setting or somewhere in between?
* **Region** – Is there a particular region of the U.S. or abroad you prefer?

**Size**

* **Large school vs. small school** – Do you prefer the resources of a large school or the tight-knit community of a small school?

**Career Alignment**

* **Employer recognition** – Is the institution accredited and well regarded by employers?
* **Majors** – Does the training provider offer one or more majors that interest you?

**Student Experience**

* **Career connections** – What types of career or work experience does the training provider offer (internships, clinical experiences, practicums, cooperative education, career fairs, professional networking)?
* **Extracurriculars** – What types of social or extracurricular activities are offered?

**Finances**

* **Costs** – How much does it cost to attend (tuition, fees, room, board)?
* **Financial aid** – How much of the cost can be offset by financial aid (scholarships, grants, work study)?

**Data**

* **Graduation rate** – What percent of the students that start a program finish it?
* **Employment rate** – What percent of graduates are employed after program completion?
* **Earnings** – What is the average starting salary of graduates?

**Fit**

* All things considered, which training provider best fits you?

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| **Do** |

List your top three postsecondary training provider options (apprenticeships, technical colleges, state or community colleges, or universities). Then, list the pros (what you like about the training provider) and cons (what you don’t like about the training provider).

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| **Postsecondary Training Provider** | **Pros** | **Cons** |
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| **Reflect** |
| **Top Choice**: Which is your preferred training provider?  |  |
| **Fit**: On a scale of 1 to 10, how well would you say this training provider fits you? Why did you say that number?  |  |
| **Other Options**: What about your other options do you like?   |  |