

Iowa Department of Education

# Annual Report: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Plan Process

2009-2010 data report

# The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Plan Process

In 2006, legislation was passed mandating that all 8<sup>th</sup> graders create a career and education plan that included a career interest option, a course plan for high school and post-secondary institutions that correlated with that career option, and a parent signature. In 2007 legislation was passed for every Iowa student to complete the graduation requirements. In 2008, SF 2216 was passed to provide that each Iowa student have a career and education plan that included the local and state graduation requirements and a course plan based on their interests using the state-designated career information system. The career information system is IHaveAPlanIowa™. These requirements began with the students who will graduate in the school year 2012-2013.

To facilitate the transition for every Iowa student to use the IHaveAPlanIowa™ (IHAPI) career information system, the 2008-2009 school year focused on the current 9<sup>th</sup> graders—then in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade state components for career planning in Iowa Choices®. This year (2009-2010), these students continued building their established career portfolios with other assessments and career research and revised or revamped their career and course plan using the 9<sup>th</sup> grade Guideways within IHAPI, and the new group of 8<sup>th</sup> graders (graduating in 2014) began the process through the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Guideways of IHAPI. Each year, students will add more state components to their student portfolios as well as information on the completion of the local courses that support the Iowa Core, and new 8<sup>th</sup> graders will begin the process.

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade these state components are:

- Development of an electronic student portfolio (linked to the district and school building)
- A career interest assessment and saved careers of interest
- A Career Cluster inventory or assessment and saved cluster of interest
- A course plan built utilizing their saved career option(s) and their schools course handbook
- A parent approval/signature form (printed or electronic)
- Review a summary of these steps.

In 9<sup>th</sup> grade the state components are:

- Complete the Interest Profiler Assessment.
- Complete a career assessment that links interests and school subjects.
- Complete a skills assessment that links their skills and careers.
- Revise and rebuild a course plan based on interests, courses and programs at their school.
- Complete a student reflection paragraph on the portfolio and career and educational plan.
- Review a summary of these 5 steps.

The components are self-directed, step-by-step processes within the “*Iowa Guideways*” of IHaveAPlanIowa™, which enable each student to complete the required state components within an electronic portfolio. All Guideways through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are currently available; however, only 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students were required to complete the Guideways this year. Students who did not have the opportunity to start or finish their grade’s “Guideways” will be able to work through them the following year so as to complete the requirements before graduation.

We will continue to enhance IHAPI to assist students and their parents and educators in planning for their future career and education paths. For example, the IHaveAPlanIowa system will include a cross-walking process to inform the student and family of student progress toward completion of the essential concepts and skills of the Iowa Core.

This tool was customized specifically for Iowa’s needs by the vendor Xap Corporation and Iowa Student College Aid Commission.

## Data

### Data from IHaveAPlanIowa™

	Graduation Year 2013 (9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Guideways)	Graduation Year 2014 (8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Guideways)
Began portfolio but NOT STARTED Guideways	9,956	6,306
STARTED Guideways	12,512	15,448
<b>FINISHED portfolio with all required State Components</b>	<b>11,938</b>	<b>15,621</b>

### School Submitted Data (non-IHaveAPlanIowa or non-Guideway students)

	Graduation Year 2013 (9 <sup>th</sup> Grade State Components)	Graduation Year 2014 (8 <sup>th</sup> Grade State Components)
NOT STARTED required State Components	2	24
STARTED State Components	30	167
<b>FINISHED portfolio with all required State Components</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>1182</b>

### Statewide by Grade:

<b>Data Totals:</b>	Graduation Year 2013 (9 <sup>th</sup> Grade State Components)	Graduation Year 2014 (8 <sup>th</sup> Grade State Components)
NOT STARTED required State Components	9,958	6,330
STARTED State Components	12,542	15,615
<b>FINISHED portfolio with all required State Components</b>	<b>12,847</b>	<b>16,803</b>

## **Summary**

During the 2009-2010 school year 12, 847 ninth graders completed all required state components and 12, 542 others started but did not finish all components for a total of 25,389 members of the class of 2013 involved in planning for their futures through these state components. This is an increase for the class of 2013 of 4,289 students over their 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation. (2008-2009: 8,051 started and 13, 149 completed for a total of 21,200)

The class of 2014, who started the state component process as 8<sup>th</sup> graders this year, had 16, 803 students complete all required state components and 15, 615 others start but not finish all components for a total of 32,418 members of the class of 2014 involved in planning for their futures through these state components.

Any student who did not complete the required components will still have access to work on them at a later date.