

College and career ready means that students graduate from high school prepared to enter *and succeed* in postsecondary opportunities – whether college or career – *without need for remediation*.

- Students should graduate fully prepared to pursue the college and career *options of their choice*.
- *College* ready refers to the full range of programs leading to valuable, recognized degrees, including community colleges and four-year colleges.
- *Career* ready refers to employment opportunities with meaningful opportunities for advancement as well as career training programs that offer technical certification or other marketable skills.
- Evidence and experience indicate that the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college and career are *greatly similar*, and that all graduates will need some form of postsecondary education or training to succeed during their careers.

To be college and career ready, students must graduate with the *knowledge, skills, and dispositions* necessary to succeed. These are the kinds of *deeper learning outcomes* that are at the heart of being college and career ready.

- Knowledge, skills and dispositions are mutually reinforcing, and not contradictory. That is, evidence and experience confirm that education that advances application of knowledge through skills is more likely to result in student competency of the underlying, rigorous content knowledge.
- The knowledge, skills and dispositions have concrete meaning and can be expressly taught, learned, and measured. This will require multiple, robust measures of evaluation and assessment.
- This same set of knowledge, skills and dispositions is also vital for student success in terms of citizenship, in addition to college and career readiness, including the ability to contribute and succeed in our increasingly diverse, democratic, global society.