Education Decision-Making

Objectives
Students will:

- Identify the seven steps to decision-making
- Apply this decision-making model to everyday decision-making as it relates to educational decisions
- Understand decision-making to be a necessary skill
- Understand decision-making styles are individual and unique
- Know how to set goals

Materials Needed

- 7 Steps to Decision-Making worksheet
- Print or online information about decision-making or career planning

Instructions

1. Lead a discussion about goal setting and decision making. Ask student what decisions they have made about their postsecondary plans.

2. Have each student learn the seven steps to decision-making as they apply to ordinary, everyday events and how they would apply that to educational-based decision-making.

3. Have students complete the seven step decision-making worksheet, filling in information to help them choose a postsecondary option.

4. Based on their decision, have students set short-term goals to be achieved within a few months.

Evaluation of Learning

- Grade the completion of the seven step worksheet.
- Assess students’ participation in class discussion.
- Students’ completed seven step worksheets and their short-term goals can be added to Individualized Learning Plans or portfolios.

Get Training/Education

Audience: Exploration
Length: 45-60 minutes

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Enhanced Learning

- Before and after this activity, encourage and instruct students to use career information resources with postsecondary program information such as MCIS or ISEEK.
- Have students create an education or career plan using the Minnesota Programs of Study website (www.mnprogramsofstudy.org).
- Revisit student’s short-term goals during various times in the term to determine whether the goal is still important and if appropriate time has been dedicated to its completion.
- Encourage students who have difficulty with decisions to talk with a school counselor or mentor for further assistance. Often poor decision-making is more than the lack of a model to follow and can be a warning of poor self-esteem. Many students require lots of assistance with college and career decisions while others are able to move quickly through the process.