

# Introduction

The Profile of a Virginia Graduate describes the knowledge, skills, experiences, and attributes critical for a student's success in college or a career. The Alexandria City Public Schools Program of Studies aligns with The Profile of a Virginia Graduate as it outlines pathways, description of courses, and the graduation requirements for a student to earn a Standard Diploma or Advanced Studies Diploma.

This Program of Studies is designed to help you gain a better understanding of the course offerings, while providing you with information that will help you prepare for your future. Academic and career planning is an important process that will involve a collaborative effort between you, your family, your counselors and teachers. The more actively involved you are in this process, the more informed your decisions will be in guiding your educational preparation to meet your future goals.

The Program of Studies describes course offerings that are intellectually challenging based on grade level skills and content. These courses will prepare students for college or career and will ensure that every student graduates with the ability to demonstrate the following five competencies known as the "Five C's":

- Critical thinking
- Creative thinking
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Citizenship

Academic and career planning is an ongoing process throughout your educational career. The following steps will guide you as you prepare to meet your college and career goals, and fulfill your potential:

- Complete career-related assessments in Naviance. These assessments will help you identify your interests, skills, and personality type.
- Utilize this information to research and identify potential careers based on your interests, skills, and personality type. Explore post-secondary institutions that offer programs to prepare you for those careers and review admissions requirements.
- Develop a rigorous and relevant individualized career and academic plan (ICAP). This plan will meet graduation requirements, and prepare for your post-secondary goals while in middle and high school using the resources in this section.

## Profile of a Virginia Graduate

In Virginia, the Life Ready Individual Will  
During His or Her K-12 Experience:



For additional information, contact the School Counseling office at your school:

T.C. Williams High School King Street Campus  
703-824-6828

T.C. Williams High School Minnie Howard Campus  
703-824-6750

T.C. Williams High School Satellite Campus  
703-619-8400

Francis C. Hammond Middle School  
703-461-4100

George Washington Middle School  
703-706-4500

Patrick Henry K-8 School  
703-461-4170

Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School  
703-706-4400