

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE COLLEGE AND CAREER READY?

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ENORMITY OF THE CHALLENGE

- The larger goal of college and career readiness requires schools to enable *all students* to
 - master core content
 - develop key cognitive strategies
 - take ownership of their learning and become proficient with a range of learning strategies
 - acquire the privileged knowledge necessary to make a successful transition from secondary to postsecondary education.
- This is a lot to accomplish when most of the focus currently is on getting students to pass English and math tests.

College readiness is a *CONTINUUM*

Not
Ready

Partially Ready

Ready

think:

*Problem Formulation
Research
Interpretation
Communication
Precision & Accuracy*

know:

*Structure of Knowledge
Challenge Level
Value
Attribution
Effort*

**Key
Cognitive
Strategies**

**Key
Content
Knowledge**

**Key
Transition
Knowledge
and Skills**

**Key
Learning
Skills and
Techniques**

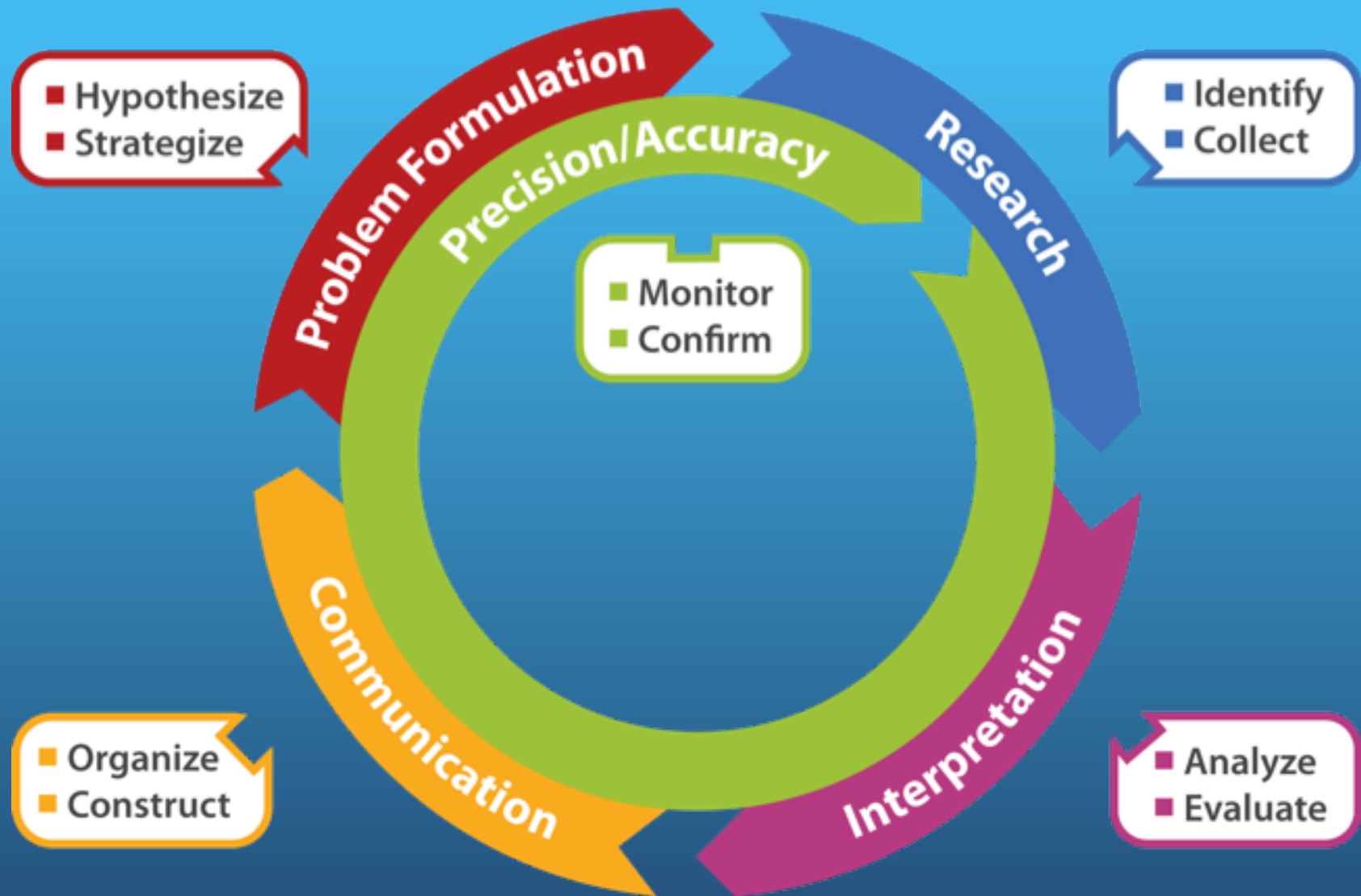
go:

*Postsecondary Awareness
Postsecondary Costs
Matriculation
Career Awareness
Role and Identity
Self-advocacy*

act:

*Ownership of Learning
Learning Techniques*

THE KEY COGNITIVE STRATEGIES



KEY CONTENT KNOWLEDGE: THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

- Are the CCSS an accurate statement of college and career readiness?
 - EPIC recruited ~2,000 postsecondary instructors in 25 different course areas to judge each standard on applicability and importance.
 - Courses included 14 commonly associated with general education requirements and 11 found in more career-oriented postsecondary programs.
- Instructors rated ELA/Language and Math standards overall as applicable and important.
- Almost all stated the CCSS were cognitively challenging.
- Comments were largely positive.
- Download report from: www.epiconline.org

KEY LEARNING SKILLS

Ownership of Learning

Know Yourself

- ***Be self-aware.*** Find out your interests, passions, skills, and ambitions.

Set Goals

- ***Know what you need to achieve*** based on self-awareness.

Be Motivated

- ***Have the mindset*** to achieve your goals.

Persist

- ***Don't give up***, especially when something does not come as easily to you.

Monitor Performance

- ***Know how well you are really doing.***
Gauge your true skill level.

Ask for Help

- ***Know when you are stuck, then get help.*** Don't view this as a weakness.

Show Self-Efficacy

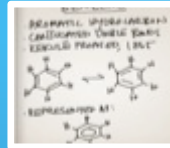
- ***Learn how to control the things you can control.*** Then, control them.

KEY LEARNING TECHNIQUES



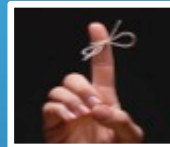
Manage Time

Take Notes



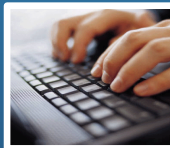
Study for Tests

Memorize



Read Strategically

Learn Collaboratively



Use Technology

KEY TRANSITION KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS⁹



Postsecondary Awareness

Postsecondary Aspiration
Postsecondary Norms & Culture



Postsecondary Costs

Tuition Awareness
Financial Aid Awareness



Matriculation

Postsecondary Eligibility
Admissions Procedures
Program Selection



Career Awareness

Career Options
Career Requirements
Career Readiness



Role & Identity

Role Identity
Role Conflict
Role Models



Self-Advocacy

Resource Acquisition
Institutional Advocacy

DO'S AND DON'TS OF ALIGNING THE SYSTEMS

- DO...
 - create opportunities for secondary and postsecondary faculty to create common understanding of and meaning for the standards.
 - get secondary students more information earlier on their readiness in each of the four key areas.
 - collect and use a wider range of data, not just what is measured by fixed-format tests.
 - encourage and assess deeper learning and performance.
 - infuse the CCSS ELA/Language and math standards into multiple subject areas.
 - provide training to teachers on how to develop key cognitive strategies through more complex assignments.

DO'S AND DON'TS OF ALIGNING THE SYSTEMS

- DON'T...
 - rely entirely on a cut score on a single English and math test for any high-stakes decisions for individual students.
 - assume all students need exactly the same knowledge and skills to be ready to succeed in the wide range of programs and majors available in postsecondary education.
 - create a distinction between the fundamental knowledge and skills needed for careers and for college.
 - forget that this is ultimately a human endeavor and that people need time to understand what is expected of them and to evolve their definition of college and career ready.

College & Career Readiness

a comprehensive approach



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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<http://www.epiconline.org>

