



# Step 1: Take an Inventory

## Financial Aid and Literacy Benchmarks

**Instructions:** Using the Illinois PaCE Framework, take an inventory to assess what is currently being done within the school or district. To get started, use the **Degree of Completion Scale** to report the percentage of students currently meeting each benchmark. Enter the corresponding number in the box next to each benchmark.

Key		Degree of Completion Scale	
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid	1	Less than 25% of students
PS	Postsecondary	2	26-50% of students
		3	51-75% of students
		4	76-99% of students
		5	100% of students

By end of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	By end of 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	By end of 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	By end of 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	By end of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>students should be supported to:</b>	<b>students should be supported to:</b>	<b>students should be supported to:</b>	<b>students should be supported to:</b>	<b>students should be supported to:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> be exposed to a financial literacy unit in a course or workshop	<input type="checkbox"/> complete a financial aid assessment with a family member	<input type="checkbox"/> attend a PS affordability workshop with a family member	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> attend a financial aid award letter workshop
				<b>students should have:</b>
				<input type="checkbox"/> attended a FAFSA completion workshop
				<input type="checkbox"/> completed a FAFSA
<b>students should know:</b>	<b>students should know:</b>	<b>students should know:</b>	<b>students should know:</b>	<b>students should know:</b>
N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> general cost ranges of various PS options	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> financial aid deadlines for chosen PS options	<input type="checkbox"/> estimated cost of each PS option
				<input type="checkbox"/> affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level career and anticipated debt
				<input type="checkbox"/> terms and conditions of any scholarship or loan