**Section 256.161 College and Career Guidance**

Guidance services shall be provided at the local district level in association with the CTE program. These services should provide for research and data collection to aid in the assessment of the effectiveness of CTE instruction and guidance and counseling services, provide for initiatives and efforts that focus on the recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented populations in CTE programs, and provide opportunities to support student development of a personalized learning plan that is in alignment with the State of Illinois Postsecondary and Career Expectations framework and that is designed to meet personal career goals. A personalized learning plan or activity should:

a) assist in identifying the career needs of individuals and encourage their enrollment in curricula appropriate to their individual immediate and long-range career plans;

b) provide individuals with information that includes, but is not limited to, labor market trends and global economics, to support informed career choices;

c) assist students while they pursue their chosen program; and

d) connect students to work-based learning experiences, including career exploration and career development experiences, to deepen understandings and explore career interests to include providing placement services for students seeking immediate employment, planning advanced education in preparation for later employment, etc.