



MIAMI DADE COLLEGE **“THE COLLEGE ROLE IN CAREER PATHWAYS”**

Career Pathways link secondary and postsecondary institutions to create more cohesive programs. Career Pathways stress the importance of creating a smoother transition between high school and college. Emphasis is placed on articulation agreements, a 2 + 2 curriculum bridging the two levels of college and career preparation. Therefore the essential component of Career Pathways is the collaboration of secondary and postsecondary institutions around career preparation.

The most frequent collaboration involves the process of specifying competencies necessary in postsecondary courses, laying the foundation for articulating secondary and postsecondary courses. These activities prepare students to enter college ready to do college-level work, and less likely to need remedial education. College faculty in particular academic disciplines work with their secondary peers with the purpose of developing “career pathways” which generate cohesive programs that integrate academic and applied technology for high school students. Additionally, college instructors can help articulate the demands of the workplace and the importance of key competencies, both academic and non-academic.

Career Pathway students receive counseling in high school that helps them think earlier and more deeply about their occupational interests and goals, and to see the value of completing high school and entering postsecondary education. We believe that the purpose of this connection is to stress that all students have the options of continuing their education, going into employment, or combining further schooling and employment. At Miami Dade College, we see the benefit of a large number of more focused students, with more concrete goals, more accustomed to active and applied approaches to learning, and better prepared to transition into college work.

Articulation agreements have been the heart of Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Miami Dade College’s Career Pathways Program, offering benefits to students. The agreements established in a variety of areas, give students college credit for courses taken during high school, thus shortening the period of time necessary for completing a College Credit, Career Technical Certificate, or Associate Degree. In most cases, students can move directly into college-level courses and avoid the need for remediation.

For more information go to Career Pathways Programs at <http://www.mdc.edu/future-students/high-school/career-pathway.aspx>

