

Montana Content Standards for Career and Technical Education and DESSA Crosswalk

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The [Montana Content Standards for Career and Technical Education](#) (CTE) help prepare Montana students for a wide range of careers and post secondary education programs. They outline the life and employment skills that prepare students to be successful in today's modern workforce.

The DESSA suite of assessments measures key social and emotional competencies essential for student success now and into the future. The DESSA assessments span kindergarten through 12th grade and can be completed by educators, students, and parents or guardians. The assessments are nationally standardized, norm-referenced, strength-based behavior rating scales, measuring the positive skills, behaviors, and mindsets necessary for students to thrive.

This crosswalk highlights the alignment between the Montana Content Standards for Career and Technical Education and DESSA assessment items. It demonstrates how the DESSA assessments can be used by districts and schools to prepare students to go directly into the workforce or continue their education with a much higher degree of focus and direction for their career goals.

Montana Content Standards for Career and Technical Education	
Standards	DESSA Items
CTE.K12.1 act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to and follow expectations for behavior• Accept responsibility for their actions• Contribute to creating a positive learning environment• Help make class a place everyone can learn• Can make a positive difference in the world• Get along with different types of people• Make others feel welcome or included• Do nice things for people• Take action to solve problems
CTE.K12.2 apply appropriate academic and technical skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events• Think before they acted• Work carefully on projects or schoolwork• Update their thinking as they learn more about something
CTE.K12.3 attend to personal health and financial well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set goals for themselves• Persist to achieve a goal• Believe they can achieve their goals• Can imagine a positive future for themselves

CTE.K12.4 communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information before making an important decision • Think before they acted • Work carefully on projects or schoolwork • Listen to others • Respond to others' feelings in kind and safe ways
CTE.K12.5 consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept responsibility for their actions • Can make a positive difference in the world • Believe their contributions to a group or team matter • Compromise for the good of the groups • Contribute to creating a positive learning environment
CTE.K12.6 demonstrate creativity and innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate openness to new situations, experiences, and people • Ask questions when learning new things • Believe they can overcome setbacks • Take action to solve problems • Cooperate with others to solve a problem • Show a willingness to examine their beliefs and opinions • Accept that making mistakes is part of learning
CTE.K12.7 employ valid and reliable research strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions when learning new things • Update their thinking as they learn more about something • Gather information before making an important decision • Work carefully on projects or schoolwork • Think before they acted
CTE.K12.8 utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show a willingness to examine their beliefs and opinions • Demonstrate openness to new situations, experiences, and people • Take action to solve problems • Keep working until they achieve a goal • Update their thinking as they learn more about something • Cooperate with others to solve a problem

<p>CTE.K12.9 model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to and follow expectations for their behavior • Accept responsibility for their actions • Do the right thing in a difficult situation • Express high expectations for themselves • Encourage others • Show appreciation for others • Listen to others • Compliment or congratulate others • Respect a person's right to have a different perspective • Cooperate with others to solve a problem • Believe working with others leads to greater success • Resolve conflicts positively
<p>CTE.K12.10 plan education and career path aligned to personal goals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events • Gather information before making an important decision • Update their thinking as they learn more about something • Demonstrate a sense of who they are and what is important to them • Set goals for themselves • Persist to achieve a goal • Believe they can achieve their goals • Can imagine a positive future for themselves
<p>CTE.K12.11 use technology to enhance productivity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take action to solve problems • Keep working until they achieve a goal • Update their thinking as they learn more about something
<p>CTE.K12.12 work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to group or team goals • Cooperate with others to solve a problem • Show appreciation for others • Encourage others • Believe working with others leads to great success • Believe their contributions to a group or team matter • Respect a person's right to have a different perspective • Update their thinking as they learn more about something



The DESSA System from Aperture Education: A Riverside Insights Company is a student resilience system that helps educators measure and strengthen social, emotional, and behavioral skills to reduce challenges that interfere with learning. The DESSA universal screening and supplemental assessments are widely used, practical, evidence-based measures of social and emotional competence of students in grades K-12. These powerful data analytic tools enable educators to identify trends, validate curriculum effectiveness, and drive positive academic and well-being outcomes for students. Robust reporting in the DESSA System provides insights for educators and staff to proactively differentiate instruction using DESSA-provided instructional strategies and tiered intervention resources. The DESSA System's strength-based approach is grounded in resilience theory and designed to bring the whole child into focus. To learn more, visit www.ApertureEd.com.