

21st Century Skills

Essential 21st Century Skills¹

- **Accountability and Adaptability**—Exercising personal responsibility and flexibility in personal, workplace, and community contexts; setting and meeting high standards and goals for one's self and others; tolerating ambiguity
- **Communication Skills**—Understanding, managing, and creating effective oral, written, and multimedia communication in a variety of forms and contexts
- **Creativity and Intellectual Curiosity**—Developing, implementing, and communicating new ideas to others; staying open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives
- **Critical Thinking and Systems Thinking**—Exercising sound reasoning in understanding and making complex choices; understanding the interconnections among systems
- **Information and Media Literacy Skills**—Analyzing, accessing, managing, integrating, evaluating, and creating information in a variety of forms and media
- **Interpersonal and Collaborative Skills**—Demonstrating teamwork and leadership; adapting to varied roles and responsibilities; working productively with others; exercising empathy; respecting diverse perspectives
- **Problem Identification, Formulation, and Solution**—Ability to frame, analyze, and solve problems
- **Self-Direction**—Monitoring one's own understanding and learning needs; locating appropriate resources; transferring learning from one domain to another
- **Social Responsibility**—Acting responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind; demonstrating ethical behavior in personal, workplace, and community contexts

¹Source: Partnership for 21st Century Skills (www.21stcenturyskills.org). Used with permission.