



Next Step **CARBON** *...for students*

Academically Ready

- Read with Understanding – Comprehend different types of texts, follow written instructions, and meet state reading standards.
- Write with Clarity – Communicate effectively in different formats (letters, resumes, emails) using the right tone for your audience.
- Think Critically – Ask good questions, analyze information, and solve problems using logic and evidence.
- Calculate with Fluency – Apply math skills to real-world situations independently and accurately.
- Apply Scientific Concepts – Use the scientific method or similar processes to explore, test, and solve complex challenges.

Life Ready

- Build Positive Relationships – Understand yourself, listen well, resolve conflicts respectfully, and use technology and social media responsibly.
- Care for Your Social & Emotional Well-Being – Manage stress, communicate appropriately, stand up for yourself, and seek help when needed.
- Practice Healthy Habits & Decision-Making – Set and stick to goals, find trustworthy information on health and relationships, make thoughtful choices, and use healthy coping skills in tough situations.

Community Ready

- Stay Informed – Understand how government works, know your rights, follow reliable news, and be aware of local, state, and national issues.
- Vote – Know how to register, understand the voting process, and take part in elections.
- Give Back – Volunteer, respect laws, and contribute in ways that make your community stronger.

Future Ready

- Know Your Strengths – Understand your skills, talents, and personality type, and recognize the difference between what you enjoy and what you're good at.
- Explore Your Options – Learn about careers and the education or training they require, compare college and certification paths, and connect with people in your field of interest.
- Make a Plan – Choose your top career options, gain real-world experience, visit schools or training programs, complete applications and financial aid, and take the steps needed to start your chosen path after graduation.

Work & Career Ready

- Communication Skills – Use technology and social media responsibly, listen well, speak and write clearly, present ideas effectively, use positive body language, and know when to ask for help.
- Professional Skills – Show up on time, work hard, act with integrity, respond well to feedback, handle conflicts respectfully, work well with others, and keep learning and improving.
- Technology Skills – Use common software (word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, email, video conferencing), manage digital files professionally, and navigate the internet and social media with professionalism

Financially Ready

- Set Financial Goals – Know your short- and long-term goals, and focus on needs before wants.
- Live Within a Budget – Create a budget that covers income, bills, savings, and emergencies, and pay bills on time to build good credit.
- Manage Money Wisely – Understand credit cards, loans, and their costs; complete financial aid forms if needed; and know how debt and repayment affect your credit score.



**CARBON CHAMBER
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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The Chamber
GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE