



## **Release Notes**

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## ***RELEASE NOTES SUMMARY***

These release notes detail the product improvements and new features included in the January 9, 2025, release.

### **Resolved Issues**

1. Clear All button Moved in Career Cluster Survey
2. Username Label Added to Professional View of Student Portfolio
3. Incorrect Association Addresses Updated

### **Enhanced & New Features**

1. [New! Ai Assist for Students](#)
2. [New Report Dashboard](#)
3. [Transcript Management Enhancements](#)
4. [Refreshed College Data](#)
5. [Updated Work-based Learning Opportunities](#)
6. [Updated Styling on Select Activities](#)
7. [Modified Batch Account Creation](#)

## RESOLVED ISSUES

This table summarizes the product improvements included in the January 9, 2025, release.

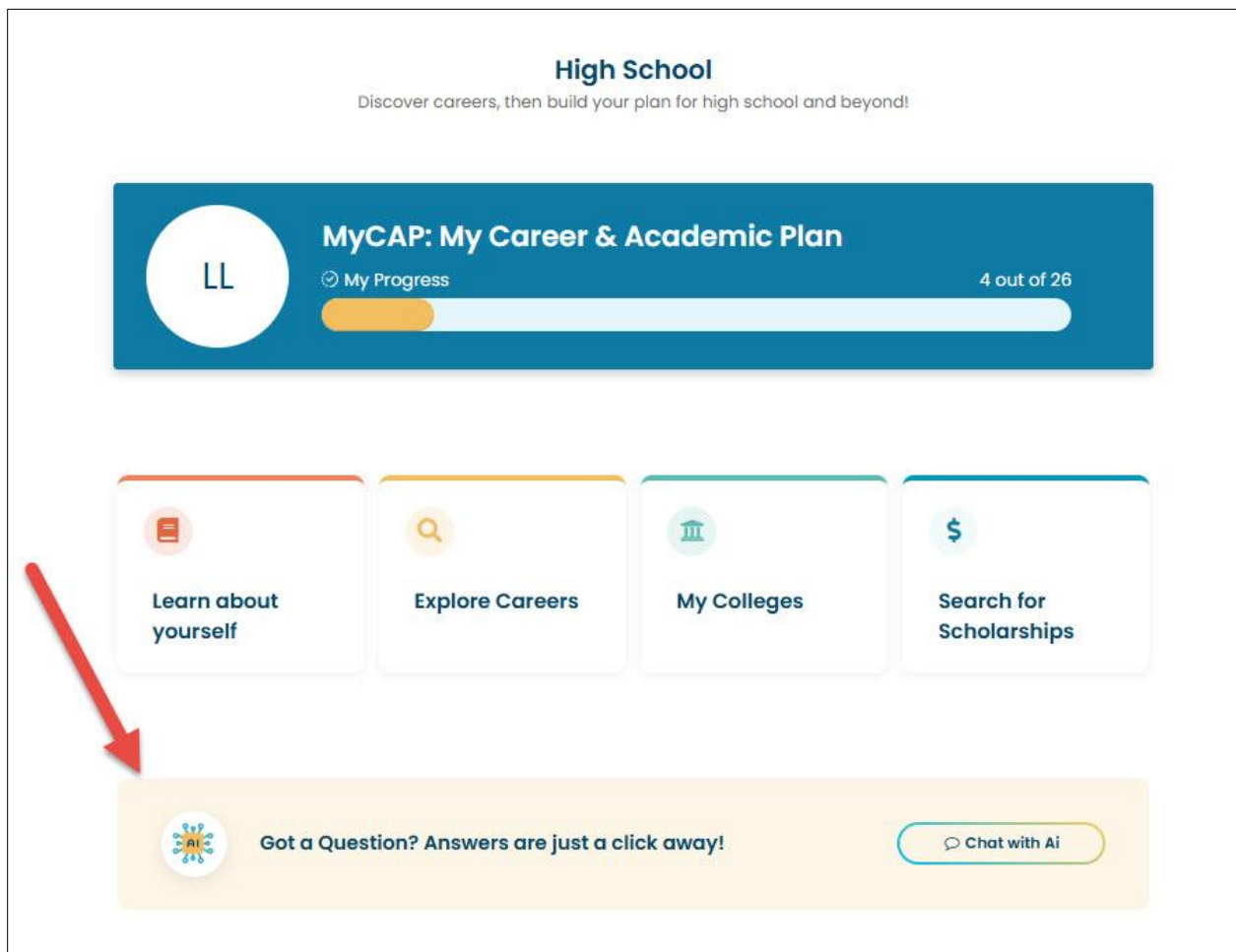
	<b>Problem</b>	<b>Improvement</b>
1	The placement of the Clear All button in the Career Cluster Survey was causing interaction problems. (PPS-7755)	The button was moved to eliminate the opportunity for mistaken selection.
2	Although the username was visible on the professional's view of a student's portfolio, the username was not labelled. (PPS-7218)	The label, username, has been added to the professional's view of a student's portfolio and has been clarified in the Reset Student Password functionality.
3	Some addresses for associations linked to career profiles were incorrect. (PPS-7618)	The addresses were updated.

## 1. NEW! AI ASSIST FOR STUDENTS

Choices360's Ai Assist personalizes career exploration by providing tailored insights, helping students discover career options, explore education paths, and create customized plans to achieve their goals.

- Save time with Ai-drive insights that guide students toward tailored career paths and goals.
- Empower students to take charge of their futures while you focus on personalized advising.
- Leverage Ai to streamline career exploration, making it engaging, efficient, and impactful for all learners.

Ai Assist is available from the home page as well as each landing page.

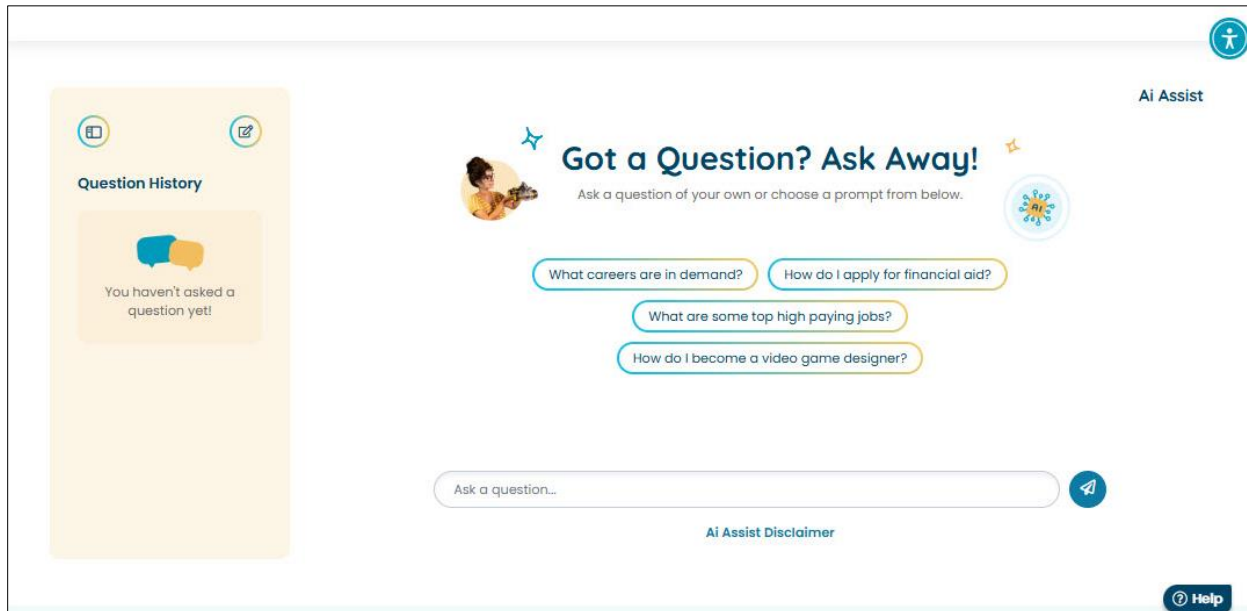


*Ai Assist from the home page*

Ai Assist defaults to offer four questions:

- What careers are in demand?
- How do I apply for financial aid?
- What are some high paying jobs?

- How do I become a video game designer?



*Ai Assist landing page*

Students can use these questions to begin a conversation with Ai Assist to explore career paths and postsecondary options. Alternatively, they can create their own custom conversations. As students interact with Ai Assist, it learns from their questions to provide more personalized responses.

Choices360's Ai Assist is designed to be friendly and engaging, with responses tailored to appropriate reading levels for students. Additionally, students have the option to revisit or delete their conversations with Ai Assist at any time.

It's important to note that Ai Assist is programmed to block the entry of any personally identifying information, ensuring a safe and secure experience.

### **Your Students' Privacy, Our Priority**

At XAP, we understand the importance of protecting student data, especially when using Ai in education. Choices360 is built with privacy concerns in mind, strictly adhering to FERPA and COPPA regulations. Our platform delivers powerful Ai-driven guidance without storing or ingesting any student information. Trust us to keep your students' information safe while empowering their future.

### **We Value Your Feedback!**

Educators, please take a moment to complete the survey on the Ai Assist page and share your insights. Encourage your students to participate as well—your input will help us improve Ai Assist to better meet your needs!

## ***2. NEW REPORTS DASHBOARD***

A new report dashboard has been introduced to the Choices360 Professional Center to provide educators with a more intuitive and efficient way to access and analyze key data.

In addition to its user-friendly design, the dashboard allows for easier access to deeper, more detailed reports, enabling stakeholders to drill down into specific metrics and uncover critical trends with minimal effort.

By integrating visually appealing charts, the dashboard enables users to identify trends and generate a sense of students' work in Choices360. Ultimately, this upgrade enhances usability and empowers stakeholders to focus on actionable outcomes.

The screenshot below shows the changes. The left sidebar expands when multiple reports are available for one topic.

- Dashboard
  - Engagement +
  - Progress +
  - Planning +
  - Course Plans
  - Colleges & Applications
  - Assessments +
  - Scholarships +
  - Student Finder
  - Scholarships +
  - Student Finder
  - Your Saved Reports
- < Collapse Menu

### Dashboard

Total Accounts **35**

Total Logins YTD **139**

#### Top Completed Activities

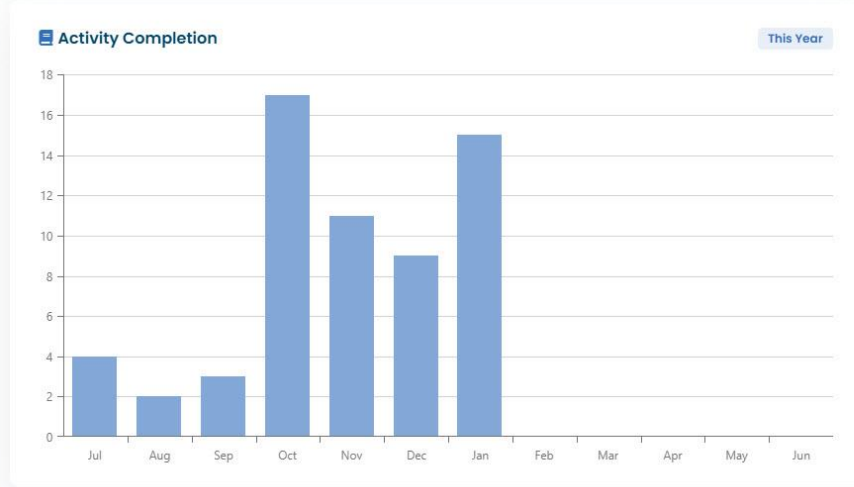
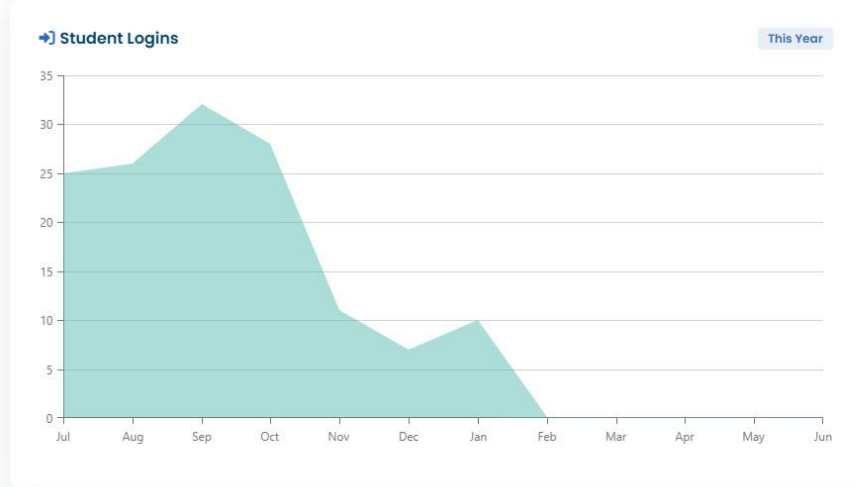
This Year

1. My Colleges & Applications
2. FAFSA
3. Work Values Sorter
4. A Picture of Me in the Future (in 20 years)
5. Entrepreneurial Checklist

#### Top Saved Careers

This Year

1. Robotics Technician
2. Actor
3. Architect
4. Librarian
5. Psychiatrist



New reports dashboard



### 3. TRANSCRIPT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENTS

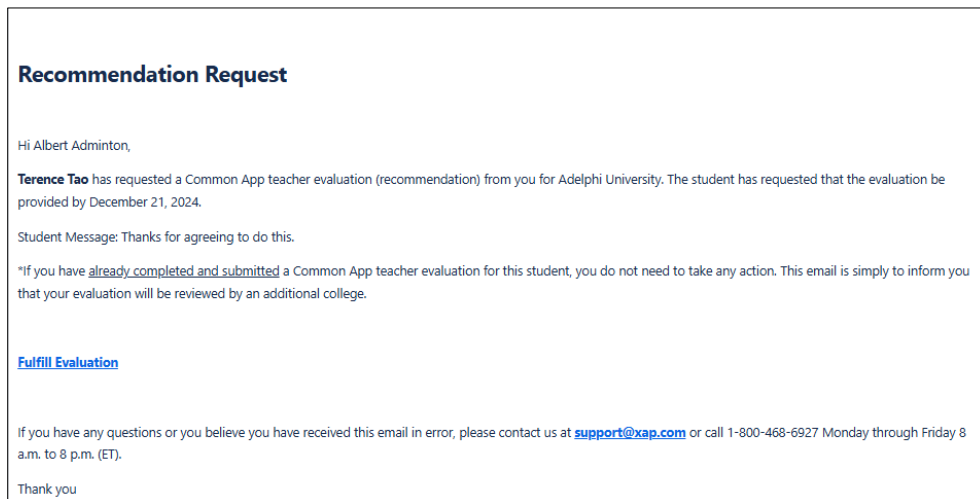
We are excited to announce that XAP is implementing transcript permissions for professional accounts to give you greater control over your team's access to transcript management tools in Choices360. This new feature allows you to designate which accounts within your district or school should have access to view and manage transcript requests.

\*[Transcript management](#) (AppDocs) is available as an add-on service to Choices360.

\* Indicates that the change is only applicable if your school or district has opted to integrate Common App with Choices360.

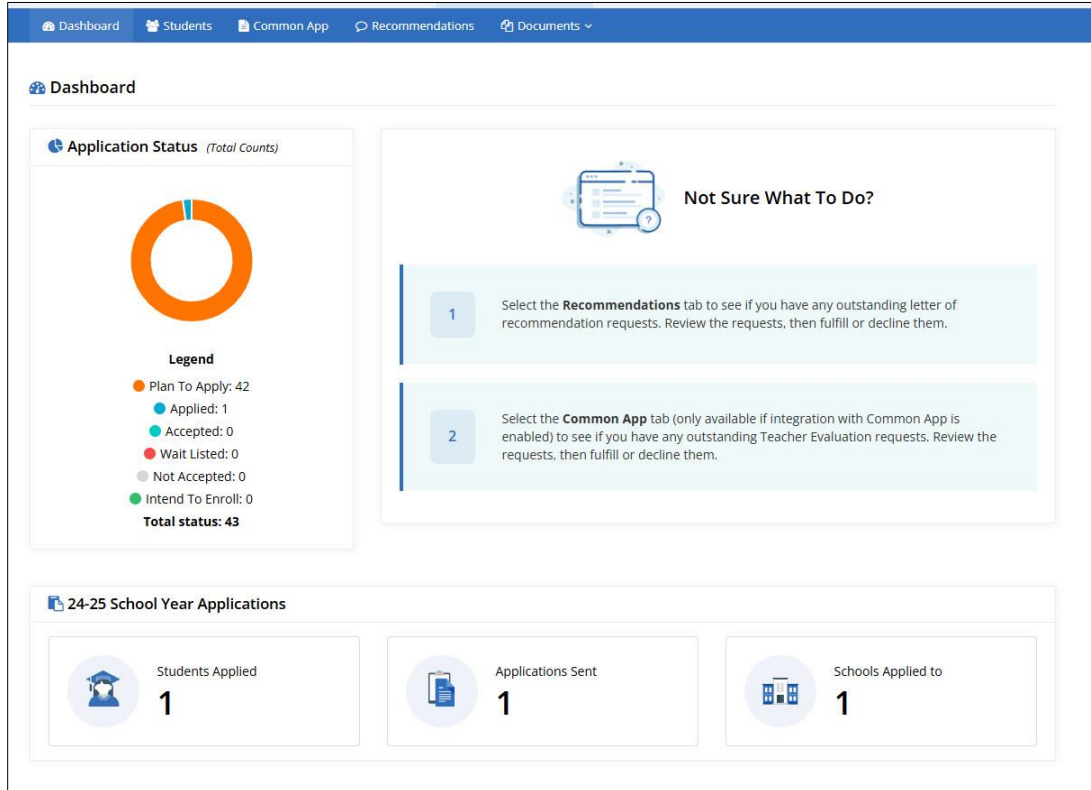
#### What is changing?

- The ability to fulfill transcript requests, including Common App counselor recommender requests\*, will be limited to professional center account holders who have been given transcript permissions. These educators can:
  - Upload and send transcripts
  - Complete and submit Common App counselor recommender forms (school report, counselor recommender, fee waiver, final report, etc.).\*
  - Send letters of recommendation on behalf of other educators
- Professional center account holders without transcript permissions will receive customized emails with direct links to fulfill letter of recommendation requests as well as Common App teacher evaluations. \*These emails will simplify their workflow.



*Sample email for educator informing them of Common App evaluation request\**

- The Colleges & Applications dashboard has been updated! Educators with transcript permissions will clearly see the status of transcript and recommendation requests and quickly access management tools. Educators without transcript permissions will see guidance to help them fulfill recommendation requests.



*Colleges & Applications dashboard for educators without transcript permissions*

- The transcript and recommendation request pages in the Student Center now require students to add a requested submission date, providing educators with greater clarity around deadlines.

Eastern Washington University

Tasks Application Transcripts Recommendations Notes

Deadline: Sep 10 Plan to Apply

### Request Transcript

**1. Profile Details**


Verify personal information: [Edit Profile](#)

First name: CoachGwen  
Last name: Marsh  
Date of birth: Aug 8, 2008

**2. Request**

Transcript being sent to:  
Eastern Washington University

**3. Requested Submission Date**

Requested Submission Date: 

Select a date

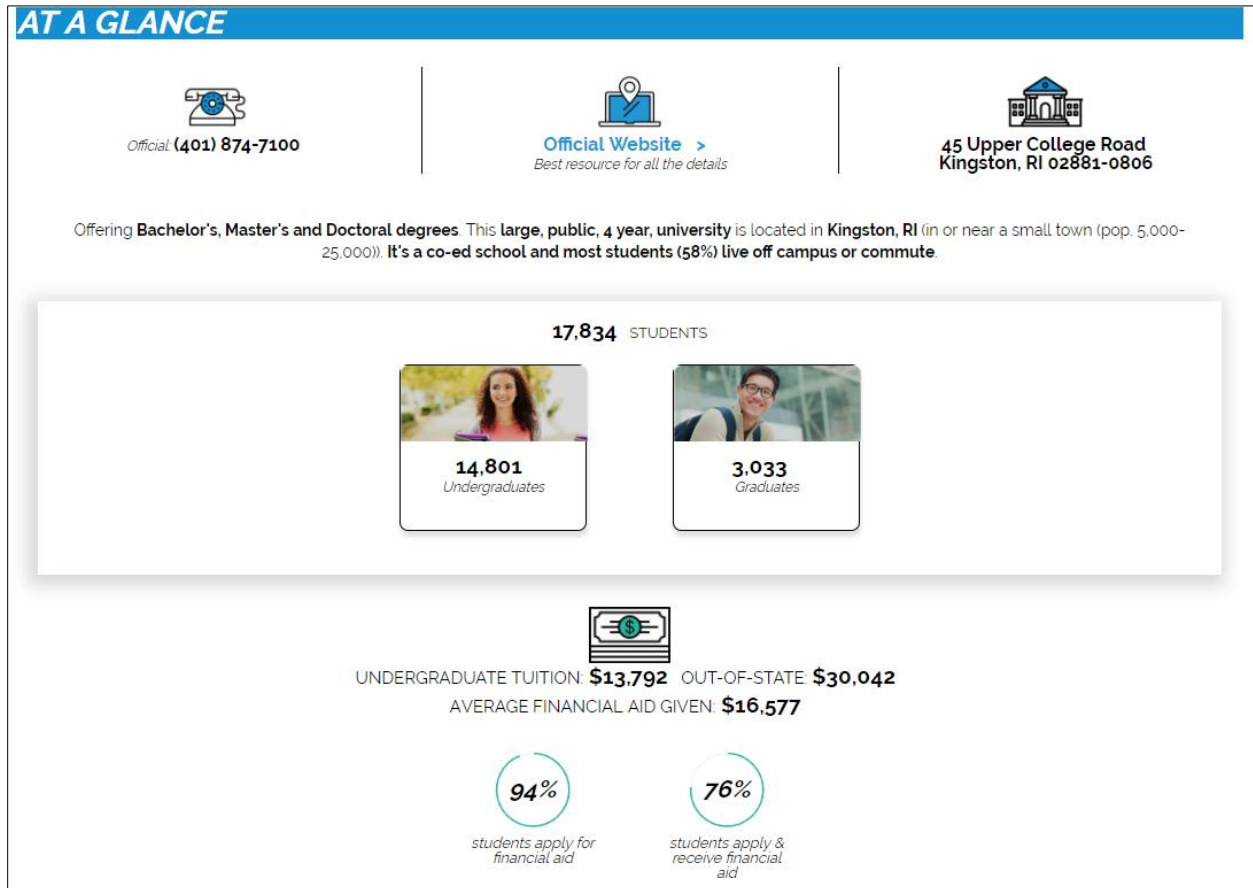
[Send Request](#) [Cancel](#)

- On the recommendation request page, students must now provide the college's email address where the letter of recommendation will be sent.

## 4. REFRESHED COLLEGE DATA

The profile information used by students to explore colleges has been updated for more than 4,000 undergraduate schools with the latest information from Petersons. The update includes:

- Revised list of programs for each school.
- Refreshed tuition and admissions information, basic school data such as links to a school's website, contact information, enrollment figures, and more.



*A sample of the data that was refreshed*

## 5. UPDATED WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

As a result of feedback from educators and students, the work-based learning opportunities page has been updated with the following changes:

- The title “New Opportunities” has changed to “Newest Opportunities”
- The Newest Opportunities have moved to the top of the page providing greater visibility
- Matching Opportunities are now underneath Newest Opportunities

Students will more quickly see opportunities added to the system.

The screenshot displays the 'Work-Based Learning Opportunities' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a back arrow, the title 'Work-Based Learning Opportunities', and a location pin icon. Below the navigation bar, the page is divided into two main sections: 'New Opportunities' and 'Matching Opportunities'. Each section contains a grid of opportunity cards. The 'New Opportunities' section features three cards, each with a 'MATCH' tag, an 'Apply' button, and a star icon. The first two cards are for 'Bismarck Factory and Acceleration Center Tour' at Bobcat Company, with details for location (Bismarck, ND), type (Job Shadow), and school (North Dakota (Training)). The third card is for 'Attend a Guard Drill' at ND Army National Guard, with details for location (Bismarck, ND), type (Cooperative Work Experience), and school (North Dakota (CRN Training District)). The 'Matching Opportunities' section features three cards, each with a 'MATCH' tag, an 'Apply' button, and a star icon. The first card is for 'Business Cooperative Work Experience - Winter' at CurrentFlow Innovations, with details for location ( Fargo, ND), type (Cooperative Work Experience), and school (North Dakota (Training)). The second card is for 'Bismarck Titan EDGE Program - Spring 2023' at Titan Machinery, with details for location (Bismarck, ND), type (Internship), and school (North Dakota (CRN Training District)). The third card is for 'Bismarck Student Service Technician Sponsorship - Fall 2023' at Titan Machinery, with details for location (Bismarck, ND), type (Mentorship), and school (North Dakota (Training)).

## 6. SELECT FEATURES & ACTIVITIES RESTYLED

Styling on the following features and activities has been updated to better reflect the overall look and feel of Choices360 and to improve interactions with the system. Each styling improvement was reviewed to ensure it meets accessibility standards and is responsive.

- Your Portfolio → Parent/Guardian Access
- Your Portfolio → Merge Accounts
- Your Portfolio → Account Access Activity
- Your Portfolio → Career Planning → Your Skills → Early Skills
- Your Portfolio → Financial Aid Planning → Financial Aid Plan

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Grant Parent/Guardian Access to Your Portfolio". At the top, it states "No invitations have been issued". Below this is an instructional text box: "Invite a parent or guardian to have read-only access to your portfolio from their account. An email message with instructions will be sent. They must follow the instructions in the e-mail to establish access. You can revoke this access at any time." The form contains several input fields: "Parent's first name \*", "Parent's last name \*", "Parent's email address \*", "Parent's email address (again) \*", "Security question \*", and "Answer to security question \*". A red asterisk legend indicates "\*=Mandatory Fields". Below the security question fields, there is a tip: "Choose a question that your parent will be able to answer, but that a stranger wouldn't be able to guess. For example, 'What was the last name of my third grade teacher?' or 'Who was my childhood hero?'". At the bottom, there is a section for "Send invitation email in which language?" with radio buttons for "English" (selected) and "Spanish". Finally, there are two buttons: "Invite" and "Cancel".

*Updated styling of Parent/Guardian Access*

## Early Skills

Check your best personal traits and work skills. Include skills that you use in school and skills that you might use in sports, hobbies, or activities outside of school.

### My Personal Traits

- I am a responsible person
- I have good self-confidence
- I am an honest person
- I am dependable and trustworthy

### My Thinking Skills

- I am good at mathematics
- I can think of new ways to do things
- I am good at making decisions
- I am good at solving problems
- I know how to learn about new things

### My Skills for Working with Resources

- I manage my time well and get my work done on time
- I take good care of my school books and equipment
- I keep my desk and work space neat and organized

### My Skills for Working with Information

- I know how to find the information I need
- I know how to organize information
- I can understand and communicate information

### My Basic Skills

- I am a good reader
- I am a good writer
- I speak well and can communicate my ideas
- I am a good listener

### My Interpersonal Skills

- I am courteous and show respect for others
- I work well on teams
- I know how to help other people to learn
- I work well with all kinds of people

### My Skills for Working with Technology

- I can use a computer to do my work
- I know how to use the Internet to get information
- I know how to use word processing and other computer programs

Describe your best skills:

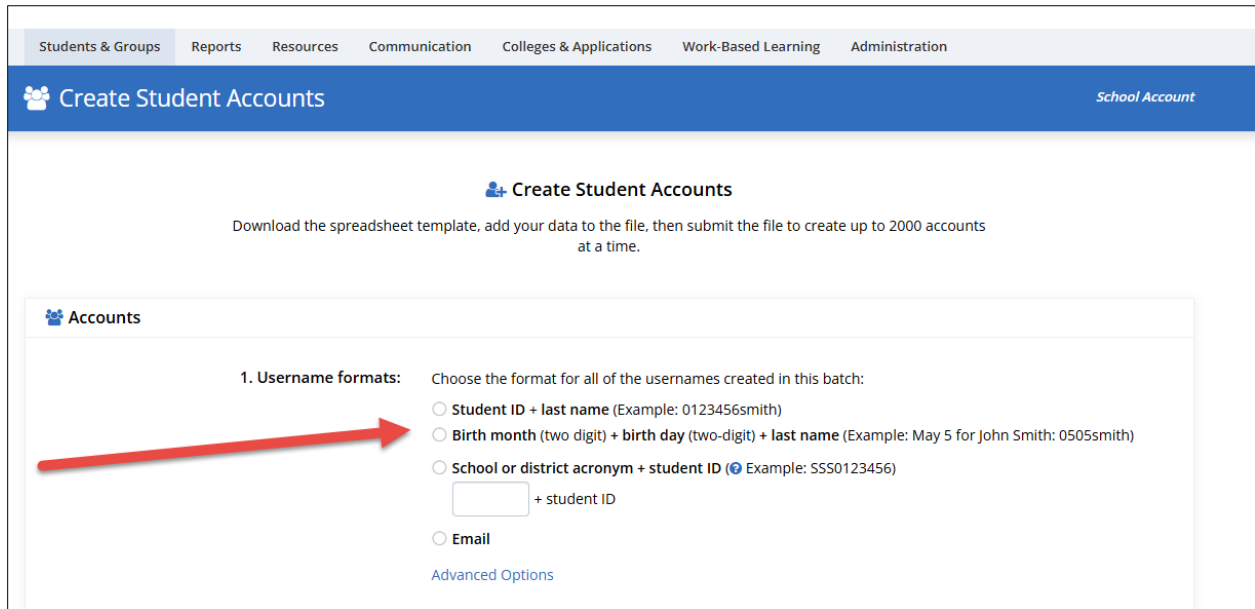
**i** For at least three of your best work skills, describe what you can do and give examples of how you use those skills.

**Save** **Cancel**

*Updated styling of the self-assessment activity, Early Skills*

## 7. Modified Batch Account Creation

The default selection for the username format when using batch account creation has been removed. Educators will be prompted to make a selection if they attempt to create accounts without a username format.



The screenshot shows the 'Create Student Accounts' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Students & Groups', 'Reports', 'Resources', 'Communication', 'Colleges & Applications', 'Work-Based Learning', and 'Administration'. Below this is a blue header with 'Create Student Accounts' and 'School Account'. The main content area is titled 'Create Student Accounts' and includes instructions: 'Download the spreadsheet template, add your data to the file, then submit the file to create up to 2000 accounts at a time.' Below this is a section titled 'Accounts' with a sub-section '1. Username formats:'. This section asks the user to 'Choose the format for all of the usernames created in this batch:' and provides four radio button options: 'Student ID + last name (Example: 0123456smith)', 'Birth month (two digit) + birth day (two-digit) + last name (Example: May 5 for John Smith: 0505smith)', 'School or district acronym + student ID (Example: SSS0123456)' (with a small blue icon next to 'ID'), and 'Email'. A red arrow points to the '1. Username formats:' section. Below the options is a text input field followed by '+ student ID'. At the bottom of the section is a link for 'Advanced Options'.

*The default selection of username format has been removed*

Once selected, the format will apply only during that session. New sessions will always require the educator to select the appropriate format.