

Acknowledgements

The Portable Assisted Study Sequence (PASS) program is a semi-independent learning plan developed as a way for migrant secondary school students to overcome some of the roadblocks to completing their high school education that were imposed by their families' frequent moves in order to seek work in agriculture. Since then, PASS has become a proven way for students across the country to acquire high school academic credits to meet graduation requirements. PASS courses are specifically designed to address the needs of this highly mobile population by incorporating a high level of content and instruction in units of manageable size that are written at an accessible reading level. These attributes, combined with assistance from a teacher/mentor, help to assure student success. In addition, the quality and flexibility of the courses have made them a viable option for other populations as well.

The National PASS Center (NPC) coordinates the revision, updating and development of PASS courses in alignment with newly upgraded state standards; serves as a repository and clearinghouse for PASS materials; incorporates technology into new and revised courses; and creates support materials to promote and facilitate the use of PASS nationwide. The NPC also maintains a web site, (www.migrant.net/pass), which includes many of the PASS materials and support information to assist in implementing PASS.

The development of quality, standards based curriculum has been the major activity of the NPC. The development of curriculum is a most laborious and time-consuming process that involves many individuals. This *Preparing for College* course is no exception. Special thanks for the development of this unit are owed to the Illinois Migrant Education Resource Project located in Chicago, Illinois under the direction of Ms. Brenda Pessin.

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