PAM Options at a Glance

The NEDP client wishing to complete the PAM Portfolio must choose **<u>one</u>** competency from among the following 14 alternatives that are summarized below. Greater detail for each competency can be found in the *College and Career Competency Manual*.

1. **Financial Management: Purchasing a Major Household Appliance –** Identify an appliance in your house that needs to be replaced. Collect information on at least two models. Explain how four of the five considerations provided added to your final choice. *Purchase of an appliance is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

2. **Consumer Advocacy: Avoiding Identity Theft** – Research three methods commonly used to steal an individual's identify. Investigate steps you can take to protect yourself and your family, and what steps to take once you determine the identity was stolen.

3. **Consumer Advocacy: Recognizing and Avoiding Common Scams and Fraud** – Research and define four common scams, identify warning signs there is a scam or fraud being proposed, and describe steps you can take to protect yourself from them.

4. **Consumer Advocacy: Online Security** – Research and discover how you can protect your electronic devices and personal data from theft, misuse, and destruction for each of four online security issues provided.

5. **Financial Planning: Homes and Mortgages** – Determine which type of mortgage plan would be best for you based on the estimated cost of a prospective home and the payment plan outlined for the mortgage plans. Determine what you will need in order to qualify including money saved toward a down payment, credit score, monthly housing budget, and the local housing market. *Purchase of a home or property is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

6. **Financial Planning: Purchasing Life Insurance** – Explore the potential need for life insurance by researching term and whole life insurance. Define each type and determine the pros and cons of each relative to your needs and those of your family. *Purchase of a plan is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

7. **Financial Planning: Purchasing Healthcare Insurance** – Choose between two options provided to explore healthcare insurance solutions for you and your family. Examine and analyze two providers in your area that will best meet your needs based on your level of health, cost projections, drug coverage, deductibles, copays and co-insurance. *Purchase of a plan is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

8. **Parenting: Childcare and Preschool Options** – Examine the childcare and preschool options available in your area that meet the individual needs of your child's maturity and education level. Visit at least two providers in your community to help you identify the best option for your child based on quality, cost and education program. *Enrollment is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

9. **Parenting: Educational Issues and Options – School Systems** – Identify what school system is best for your child by exploring and visiting the available options in your area including public, charter, and private schools. You might also consider exploring homeschooling your child. *Enrollment is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

10. **Parenting: Understanding an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and Advocacy for a Special Needs Child** – Research your role, responsibilities and rights as a parent or guardian in developing your child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP); explore strategies and recommendations on how to work collaboratively with the school to ensure your child receives the most appropriate services; identify and list resources available to you as the parent or guardian that provide information, support, and advocacy.

11. **Retirement: Financial Considerations** – Predict your needs and goals for your retirement years and draft a plan to support them, with various options and costs.

12. **Retirement: Planning for a Healthy and Satisfying Lifestyle** – Consider and plan for how you will spend your retirement years by planning for activities, options, and resources to help you meet your goals. Research the available options, costs associated for each, any training that might be needed, approximate time commitment, and any potential cautions.

13. **Family Support: Elder Care Issues** – Based on physical, financial, and everyday life needs, determine which housing option is most appropriate for the care of an older family member or in preparation for your own care. Visit and collect information on at least two senior housing options or two local services or resources available in your area to provide necessary support. *Enrollment is not necessary for the completion of this competency*.

14. **Personal Legal Affairs: Legal Documents** – Research the benefits of acquiring the following legal documents as well as the procedure for acquiring each one in your state:

    - will
    - power of attorney
    - health care directive
    - guardianship

    Use a free online legal form to complete one of the legal documents. Include in your portfolio and presentation the steps necessary to make the document legal.