

Career, future, and post-secondary options



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Lesson 1, Version 2.5

"Always be yourself, express yourself, have faith in yourself, do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it." – Bruce Lee

Key Points of Emphasis

01. Understand ALL your post-secondary options

02. Talk with family and teachers on future options

03. Do your own research on each of the following options

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." – Thomas Edison

Thought Question and Intro

What are your guys' plans after college? Have you thought about all your options?

It's a bit scary to think about life after high school and there's no need to feel anxious or scared. There are many options open to high school graduates. Who knows, you may find your future career in of these options?

More school?!?!?

College: Colleges tend to offer 4 years of undergraduate education for a bachelor's degree, but many offer graduate, and doctoral degrees as well. There are public and private universities. Public universities tend to be less expensive because they are supported by the state. You can choose to get a degree in a variety of fields such as business, biology, math, statistics, arts, music and etc. It's also possible to start off at a community college and then shift. Community colleges usually have agreements with various colleges in the city or state that allow the credits to transfer over and students to switch over. To obtain a bachelor's degree from college, it would cost you \$127,000 on average, but this tends to be lower for students who go to schools that are in state. OSU tends to charge \$11,084 for tuition for the entire school year

Trade School: These schools are also known as vocational schools and also tend to offer associate degrees. Many times, community colleges will also be trade schools, so it is best to research and make calls in order to find out. You can get an associate degree in order to become an electrician, a mechanic, plumber, HVAC repairer, dental hygienist, web developer and etc. Trade schools tend to be cheaper and take less time to finish than college. The average time to finish a trade school degree is 2 years costs \$33,000. There are many trade schools in Columbus, some examples are the Delaware Area Career Center, Ohio Media School, and The Electric Trades Center.

Position	Average Salary
College graduate	\$50,390
Finance Major (Bachelor's degree)	\$60,000
CSE Major (Bachelor's degree)	\$110,100
Brick Layer (HS diploma + certification/courses)	\$52,076
Computer repair technician (Assoc. degree)	\$59,300
Home inspector (HS diploma + certification/ courses)	\$50,000 – 64,000
Masonry Supervisor (HS diploma + certification/courses)	\$84,930

Certifications: Some careers allow students to get certified in a skill by taking a limited number of courses and being able to work. This is possible in the IT and health care industries. It's possible to become an EMT, web-developer, medical assistant, dental assistant, and etc. without obtaining an associate or bachelor's degrees.

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.” – Pelé

Websites to visit

1. 123test.com/career-test/index.php
2. Aptitude-test.com
3. Ipersonic.com/career/
4. Myersbriggs.org
5. Princetonreview.com/quiz/career-quiz
6. Truity.com/view/tests/personality-career
7. Delawareareacc.org
8. Beonair.com/locations/Columbus/
9. Electricaltrades.org

Jobs

If you're not set on getting a degree yet, you can work for some time. This allows you more time to think of your future and lets you save money if you want to receive education of any sort. Some jobs will cover your tuition up to a certain amount, so why waste the tuition reimbursement if your education is covered.

Military: Serving in the military after high school is also a great option. It instills great life lessons and can even allow you to get a free or nearly free education. There is also a plethora of career options that can open up after serving and getting your education.

Hobbies into careers: You may not realize it, but a lot of your hobbies may become your careers. If you play an instrument, you can become part of a band and perform at various events like weddings, graduation parties, and etc. If you are good at photography, you can start your own wedding photography business or open up a studio. There are a bunch of examples of making your hobbies your career.

Business: You don't need a degree to start your own business, though it helps greatly. Your business can be about selling some new technology, or products or even offering services. You can even start a business based on the skills you picked up in college or at your other jobs.

Other future options

Internships: Internships, whether they are paid or unpaid, can offer you with lots of experience and understanding of how a job you might be interested in works. You can get to know the common hours of a job (9am-5pm job in a corporate setting or a job with on-call hours in a hospital), the setting the job usually takes place in (corporate office, small clinic, hospital, private practice, work from home, and etc), what skills you need, whether you need a degree in something specific or not, and a lot more helpful information to help you determine your career and education paths.

Volunteering: Many times, volunteering in different places may help you gain insight into different lines of work and you may even consider them as future careers. You also get to serve the community as you learn more about different careers.

You may volunteer with Teach for America and may choose to get a degree to become a full-time teacher. You may volunteer in some other organization such as peace corps, red cross, and may even get a job with them after your degree.

Conclusion

I hope you enjoyed this lesson on the various post-secondary options you have available. Thinking about your future may be very scary, but by applying this critical information, you will be able to make clear and informed decisions about your future. Remember, there are a wide array of resources such as parents and teachers who can provide you with advice, information, and tips. Don't forget to research more on this stuff by yourselves on the internet!