



Your School After High School

Options Guide

beforeage18.org

Post-Secondary Options

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Classroom, online, and blended learning options.

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Are you self-motivated, organized and focused?

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Programs are usually completed in 1 - 2 years.

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An investment in college is an investment in yourself.

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Serve your country and learn a career.

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What else is possible?

Community College

Quick Facts

- Classroom, online, and blended learning options
- Many topics to study
- Earn an Associate's Degree
- Transfer to a university after 2 years

Community Colleges can be a faster and cheaper path to some careers.

Let's Get Started

1

Learn Your Options

- [Career One Stop](#): search for schools that are in your area
- Visit school websites
- Talk to your school counselor, VR counselor, and family
- Go to a College Fair

2

Visit Colleges

- Schedule a college tour (check their website)
- Talk to your school counselor about joining a group tour
- [Big Future](#): provides a Campus Visit Checklist

3

Ask about Accommodations

- Contact the College's Office of Disability Services about available accommodations and required documentation

Community College

4

Find the Right Fit

- Does the college offer classes you want to take?
- Does the environment feel right for you?
- Does the community meet your wants and needs?

5

Meet the Requirements

- High school diploma or GED certificate
- Grade point average (GPA) requirements
- Take their college placement test generally in the areas of reading, writing, and math. Results will show if you need to take any catch up courses.

6

Apply

- Complete the application (available on their website) and other required materials
- Meet the deadlines! Each school can have different deadlines
- Don't forget that your school counselor, VR counselor, and family can help you with this process

Buzz Words

Associate's Degree • 2-year college • Certificate • Technical School • Trades

Online Degrees

Quick Facts

- Take all your classes online
- Lots of topics to study
- Earn a degree or certificate
- Flexible schedule

To be successful in online courses, you need to be self-motivated, organized and focused.

Let's Get Started

1

Learn Your Options

- Visit school websites. Some offer a virtual tour.
- Talk to your school counselor, VR counselor, and family

2

Ask about Accommodations

- Courses usually have closed captioning and are compatible with adaptive technology
- Contact the College's Office of Disability Services about available accommodations and required documentation

3

Find the Right Fit

- Does the college offer classes you want to take?
- Are you self-motivated and organized?
- Will you miss having in-person classes?

Online Degrees

4

Meet the Requirements

- High school diploma or GED certificate
- Grade point average (GPA) requirements
- SAT or ACT score may be required
 - ✓ Take these tests in the beginning of your junior year of high school.
 - ✓ You can retake them to try to improve your score.
 - ✓ Accommodations are available
 - ✓ Visit collegeboard.org for information about the SAT test and requesting accommodations
 - ✓ Visit act.org for information about the ACT test and requesting accommodations

5

Apply

- Complete the application (available on the school's website) and other required materials
- Meet the deadlines! Each school can have different deadlines
- Don't forget that your school counselor, VR counselor, and family can help you with this process

Technical School

Quick Facts

- Classroom and hands on learning
- Programs are usually completed in 1 - 2 years
- Lots of fields to choose from
- Once you complete the program, you can work in that field!

Technical schools offer hands-on, job-focused and certificate programs.

Let's Get Started

1

Learn Your Options

- [Trade-schools.net](https://www.trade-schools.net) search for schools that are in your area
- Visit school websites
- Talk to your school counselor, VR counselor, and family

2

Visit the School

- Schedule a tour (check their website)
- Talk to your school counselor about joining a group tour
- [Big Future](#): provides a Campus Visit Checklist

3

Ask about Accommodations

- Contact the College's Office of Disability Services about available accommodations and required documentation

Technical School

4

Find the Right Fit

- Does the college offer classes you want to take?
- Does the environment feel right for you?
- Does the community meet your wants and needs?

5

Meet the Requirements

- High school diploma or GED certificate
- No grade point average (GPA) requirements
- Take their placement test generally in the areas of reading, writing, and math. Results will show if you need to take any catch up courses.

6

Apply

- Complete the application (available on the school's website) and other required materials
- No deadlines to apply
- May need to wait to take classes until the program officially starts each year
- Don't forget that your school counselor, VR counselor, and family can help you with this process

Buzz Words

Trade school • 2-year college • Trades • Certificate

University or College

Quick Facts

- Classroom, online, and blended learning options
- Hundreds of topics to study
- Lots of activities to choose from
- Earn a Bachelor's Degree

There are many different fields to earn a degree in.

Let's Get Started

1

Learn Your Options

- [College Board](#): lots of information about universities
- Visit universities websites
- Talk to your school counselor, VR counselor, and family
- Go to a College Fair

2

Visit Universities

- Schedule a tour (check their website)
- Talk to your school counselor about joining a group tour
- [Big Future](#): provides a Campus Visit Checklist

3

Ask about Accommodations

- Contact the University's Office of Disability Services about available accommodations and required documentation

University or College

4

Find the Right Fit

- Does the university offer classes you want to take?
- Does the environment feel right for you?
- Does the community meet your wants and needs?

5

Meet the Requirements

- High school diploma or GED certificate
- Grade point average (GPA) requirements
- SAT or ACT score may be required
 - ✓ Take these tests in the beginning of your junior year of high school.
 - ✓ You can retake them to try to improve your score.
 - ✓ Accommodations are available
 - ✓ Visit collegeboard.org for information about the SAT test and requesting accommodations
 - ✓ Visit act.org for information about the ACT test and requesting accommodations

6

Apply

- Complete the application (available on the school's website) and other required materials
- Meet the deadlines! Each school can have different deadlines. Be organized so you don't miss any.
- Don't forget that your school counselor, VR counselor, and family can help you with this process.

Military

Quick Facts

- Department of Defense (DOD) offers jobs to people with disabilities
- Work on a military base as a civilian
- Enter the ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program, enlist in a branch of the military, or serve in the reserves

You can enlist in the military or work as a civilian.

Let's Get Started

1

Civilian Jobs

- [Department of Defense Civilian Careers](#): information about jobs, requirements and accommodations
- [USA Jobs](#): learn about other federal government jobs

2

ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps)

- Enroll in a 4-year college or university
- Talk to a recruiter to find out more about the requirements

3

Enlist

- Be 18 years old, or 17 with parent's permission
- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Talk to a recruiter to find out more about the requirements

Other Options

Quick Facts

- Not sure what to do after high school?
That's Okay!
- You have options. The main thing is to keep learning.
- Education doesn't just happen in the classroom.

Thinking outside
the Educational
Box.

Let's Get Started

1

Work Experience

- You can learn a lot through working!
- It can be a good way for you to explore and learn what you like and don't like
- You'll also learn soft skills, like teamwork, problem solving, and time management
- Some companies help pay for college tuition or training

2

Apprenticeships

- Earn money while you learn
- Many industries offer apprenticeship programs
- Programs last 1 - 6 years and your wages increase as you get more experience
- Learn more at [Career One Stop](#)

Other Options

3

Coding Bootcamp

- Complete a training program for a career in technology
- Talk to your VR counselor about programs in your area
- [Course Report](#): search for programs in your area

4

Start Your Own Company

- Talk to your VR counselor for help in finding resources to start your own business

5

Digital Wonderland

- Take courses through a learning platform, like Coursera, Khan Academy, or Udacity
- Explore your interests, and learn at your own pace
- Many of these courses are free and accessible to anyone