

OPTIONS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Hill

Valley High School

(know what is in yellow)

1. No additional training or education.

- You may choose to work or . . . ?

2. On-the-Job Training or Apprenticeship

- Apprenticeship--training people a structured competency based set of skills. Most training is done while working for an employer who helps the apprentices learn their trade or profession, in exchange for their continuing labor for an agreed-period.

Examples of Apprenticeships

- electricians
- ironworkers
- sheet metal workers
- bricklayers
- plasterers

- For apprentice electricians: work about 40 hr/week, under the supervision of a journeyman electrician and receive pay and benefits. They spend 6 hours/week in classrooms. After 5 years, they reach the level of journeyman electrician, and can work independently. All is offered at no charge, except for books. Persons completing this program are considered highly skilled by employers and command high pay and benefits.

3. Military Service

- Army
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marines

- United States military academies have the special purpose of educating career officers for service in the various branches of the armed forces.
- The Federal Government pays for students' education and the student agrees to serve in the armed forces for a certain amount of time after graduation.
- Each academy has a four-year curriculum composed of academic courses as well as athletics, military training, and character development.

- After completing the curriculum, a cadet earns a bachelor's degree as well as a military commission.

4. Specific-Program School

- **IBMC** (Institute of Business & Medical Careers) Fort Collins, Cheyenne, Greeley, Longmont,
- i.e.: programs in business, legal, healthcare, and massage

- not a four-year program
- focuses on your chosen program
- no (or a few) general education classes

5. Vocational/Technical/Trade/ Career College

- Teach only job-specific skills, not a broad, liberal arts education.
- Two years of schooling.

Examples of Vocational Schools

- Front Range Community College
- Aims Community College

6. Two-Year Community or Junior College

- NJC, Sterling
- Aims

- These colleges offer programs requiring **one or two years of study**.
- These programs can lead to an associate's degree or certificate, can directly prepare students for careers in certain fields, and can offer a sequence for students who wish to **transfer to a university or a four-year college** after one or two years of introductory study.

- The state of Colorado has identified certain courses as transferable among all public institutions in the state, so students can plan a curriculum at a two-year college that is guaranteed to transfer to and apply to degree requirements at a four-year institution within the state.
- Usually less expensive than universities and four-year colleges.
- Have less stringent admission requirements.
- Offer more flexible class times.

7. Four-Year College

- Offer programs leading to a bachelor's degree, but have few (if any) programs at the graduate level leading to a master's degree or a doctorate.
- Smaller than universities.
- Focus on undergraduate instruction.
- They may offer two-year degrees as well.
- Most require at least a high school diploma and test scores to be admitted.

8. Universities

- Usually have separate colleges or schools within their system and will offer degrees at both the undergraduate and graduate level.
- May offer two-year degrees and certificate programs.

Examples of Universities

- UNC
- CSU
- CU

9. Graduate School

- Awards advanced academic degrees (master's and doctorate--PhD) after students earn an undergraduate (bachelor's degree).
- Many universities award graduate degrees. It is not necessarily a separate institution.

- Producing original research is often a significant component of **graduate studies**, including the writing and defense of a “thesis or dissertation” (a document presenting the author’s research and findings).
- **“Thesis” is used as part of a master’s degree while “dissertation” is applied to a doctorate.**

Examples of Programs in Graduate School

- medical school
- law school
- business school
- ministry

Public vs. Private Schools

- The primary difference between public and private institutions is the cost of attendance.
- Public institutions receive funds from the state in which they are located and will, therefore, have lower tuition rates for residents of that state than for students coming from out of state.

- Private institutions will have the same costs for all students, and those tuition rates will often be higher than the tuition at public institutions.
- Private colleges and universities are often able to offer competitive financial aid packages and scholarships.
- Since public institutions receive funding from their state, there may be specific guidelines set by the state as to admission requirements and enrollment procedures for residents and non-resident students.
- Private institutions will have complete discretion in their admission requirements.