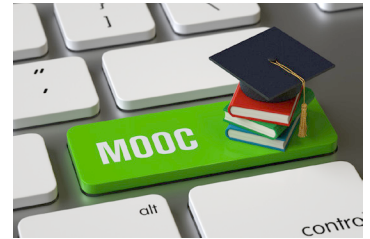


After High School Choices

MOOC (Massive Online Open Courses)

If you want a different learning experience after high school, earn one or more certificates in subjects you enjoy from almost-free internet MOOC colleges. MOOCs are different from regular colleges because you do not need to enroll in the college to take the course. Courses run from 4 weeks to 12 weeks or more, but shorter courses have higher success finish rates. After you pass the course, it will cost about \$50 if you want a certificate for your job application or resume. MOOC courses require you do the following: watch videos, read lessons, do activities, attend online meetings with others, complete weekly assignments, pass quizzes, and pass final (or project). It may help if a friend enrolls in the course with you.



Best MOOCs are: a) **Coursera.org** - most number of classes; low cost. b) **edX.org** - most categories of classes; most free. c) **FutureLearn.com** - certificates plus college degrees. d) **CognitiveClass.ai** - computer courses. Many students change majors often which wastes money. MOOCs can help you figure out what major is best for you. For example, if you think a video game developer would be an awesome career, then taking MOOC like "Introduction to Programming" can help you understand if you like it.



College (Full Time or Part Time)

Attend college: 1) To **earn** a Certificate (for a job such as welder or hair stylist). 2) To **earn** an Associate Degree (2 years of college) in a job area (such as Police Science) or to transfer to a 4-year college. 3) To **earn** a Bachelor degree (4 years of college). Also, you may apply for an internship program for one semester or more. An internship program: 1) Places you in a temporary job that teaches skills needed for the career area. 2) Gives you paid or unpaid work experience. 3) Provides you with references (people who will say you are a good worker) to place on your resume and job applications. If you attend college part time while working, you will eventually earn a certificate or degree that will provide you a better job with higher pay. For example, an Associate degree requires 16 college classes (general education and major). If you completed 2 classes per semester while working part-time, how long will it take for you to earn an Associate degree?

Adult School or Public Trade & Technical Center

Many cities have Adult Schools or public Trade & Technical Centers that offer you: a) Low cost training in a skill. b) Training for a Certificate or License for a job (such as carpenter, mechanic, medical assistant, and computer technician). To find an Adult School or public Trade & Technical Center, talk to your high school counselor, or visit the website CareerOneStop.org. Click on "Find Local Help" and "Find an American Job Center." Then enter your zip code. You do not need to enroll in private school training that will cost **thousands** of dollars and place you in debt for many years! Take the time and effort to find low cost training sites near you. It is best to start your career debt free!



Work

You may want to work after high school. Find a job with a career path that will lead to higher pay. For example, restaurants, grocery stores, and retail stores promote good workers to supervisor, and then to store manager. Do not take a “dead end” job — job that does not offer a career path for good workers. To find jobs, visit CareerOneStop.org. Click “Job Search.” Also, find job openings on internet sites such as Indeed.com, Monster.com and CareerBuilder.com, or specialty job boards: Dice.com (technology), HealthECareers.com, CareerBank.com (financial), and TalentZoo.com (design).



Apprenticeship Program

Apprenticeship programs are job training programs with classroom instruction and paid work experience. Apprenticeships are run by sponsors such as: employers, JATC (Joint Apprenticeship & Training Centers), industries (manufacturing), and unions. Apprentices learn to become experts in skills such as carpentry, mechanics, electronics, and others. Graduates are called Journeymen or Journeywomen and earn high pay. Visit Apprenticeship.gov to discover apprenticeship programs near you. After you apply, it may take one year to wait for an opening. Take this time to prepare by improving your English, math, and work skills.



Volunteer

Find volunteer jobs by visiting VolunteerMatch.org. You may volunteer in a national park (visit NPS.gov). You may join Job Corps for job training (visit JobCorps.gov). Also, visit your city's police department, fire department, hospital, or library to ask about volunteer jobs.

Start a Business

Create a business! Store window painting, pet care, lawn service, mobile car wash, pool or Koi pond cleaning, house cleaning, or other. Visit the website USA.gov/start-business.



Join the Military

The military offers excellent job training and money for college after you serve. Be aware that military service includes dangerous and risky duties. To read more, visit the website TodaysMilitary.com.

QUICK CHECK:

- For what words does MOOC stand?
 - Why are MOOCs different?
 - Which courses have higher success?
 - How much is the certificate?
 - List 7 things MOOCs require you to do.
 - List 3 good MOOCs.
 - What can MOOCs help you figure out?
- List 3 things you can **earn** in college.
- List 3 things an internship program does for you.
- How many classes does an Associate degree require?
 - If you take 4 classes each year, how long would it take for you to earn an Associate Degree?
 - If you started at age 18, how old would you be when you earned an Associate?
- List 2 things that Adult Schools or Trade & Technical Centers offer you.
 - What website can you visit to find this low cost training?
 - What do you not need?
 - What is best?
- List 3 examples of jobs that promote good workers to manager.
 - What is a dead end job?
 - List 5 internet sites you may visit to find jobs.
- What are apprenticeship programs?
 - List 4 sponsors.
 - What do apprentices learn?
 - Where do you find programs near you?
- List 4 ways you can find volunteer openings.
- List 3 types of businesses you may start.
- What does military service offer?
 - Of what should you be aware?