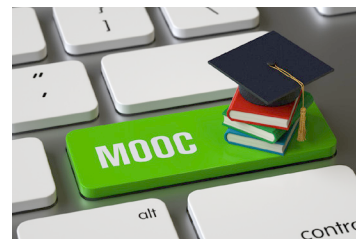


After High School Choices

ATTEND MOOCs — Massive Online Open Courses

If you want a different learning experience after high school, earn one or more Certificates in subjects you enjoy from low cost internet online courses. MOOCs are different from regular colleges because you do not 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 may cost about \$50 to \$250 if you want a Certificate of Completion for the course to use on your job application and 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 so that you may study together.



Websites that offer online courses are: a) **MOOC.org** - Explains what MOOCs are with classes offered. **Coursera.org** - most number of classes; low cost. b) **edX.org** - most different subjects of classes; most free. c) **FutureLearn.com** - certificates or college degrees. d) **CognitiveClass.ai** - artificial intelligence and computer courses.



Advantages of MOOCs — College students may waste time and money by changing majors several times. MOOCs can help you figure out what major is best for you before you spend money for college. For example, if you think a video game developer would be an awesome career, then taking the MOOC course "Introduction to Programming" can help you understand if you enjoy programming.

ATTEND 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: 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?

ATTEND ADULT SCHOOL OR "PUBLIC" TRADE & TECHNICAL CENTER

Many cities offer 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, nurse, medical assistant, 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 “Find Local Help” and "Find an American Job Center." Then enter your zip code. Do not sign a contract to enroll in private school training because that will cost **thousands** of dollars. It is best to start your career debt free! Visit CareerOneStop.org for low cost training!



FIND A JOB

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. To find jobs, visit CareerOneStop.org. Click “Job Search.” Find job openings on internet sites — Indeed.com, Monster.com, CareerBuilder.com, SnagaJob.com — or specialty job sites — Dice.com (technology), HealthECareers.com, and TalentZoo.com (design).

APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Apprenticeships are job training programs with classroom instruction and paid work experience. Apprenticeships are run by sponsors: employers, unions, JATC (Joint Apprenticeship & Training Centers). Apprentices (student learners) become "experts in skills" such as carpentry, mechanics, electronics, plumbing, and others. Graduates are called Journeymen or Journeywomen and earn high pay. Visit Apprenticeship.gov to discover apprenticeship programs near you. There may be a waiting list for apprenticeship programs.



DO VOLUNTEER WORK

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 idea. Visit the website USA.gov/start-business for tips.

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. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard.



QUICK CHECK:

- For what words do the letters MOOC stand?
 - Why are MOOCs different?
 - Which courses have higher finish rates?
 - Certificates may cost how much?
 - List 7 things courses require you to do.
 - List 3 websites that offer online courses.
 - 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?
 - Do not sign what?
 - Why?
 - 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 3 sponsors.
 - What do apprentices become?
 - Where do you find programs near you?
- List 4 ways you can find volunteer openings.
- List 3 types of businesses you may start.
- What 2 things does military service offer?
 - Of what should you be aware?
 - List the 6 branches of the military.