

Options After High School

The majority of careers and occupations require some education or training beyond high school. One career may require four years of college while another may require a six-month program of study at a technical college. Your career goal will determine which of the following options is most appropriate once you graduate from Plymouth High School.

Employment

Nearly 15% of all available jobs are open to people who have a high school diploma or less. These jobs represent some of the lowest paying jobs in the labor market. This is also the section of the labor market that is most rapidly disappearing.

Apprenticeships

Students who prefer hands on approach to learning can consider an apprenticeship program. Apprentices learn a skilled trade through a combination of classroom instruction and on the job training. Apprenticeships are agreements in which employers pay individuals while they are learning their trade or profession. Examples of skilled trades include carpenter, plumber, steamfitter, electrician, and tool and die maker, millright, sheet metal worker and mason.

Specialty Schools

These are schools that specialize in a specific trade or skill. Specialty schools could include truck driving, cosmetology, culinary arts, massage therapy and flight attendant schools. Most specialty schools offer only financial aid in the form of student loans by completing the Free Application For Federal Student Aid.

Military

The military trains young men and women so that they can protect the interests of our country. In order to do this, the military offers qualified high school graduates a good salary and free job training. The military also provides discipline and structure, as well as opportunities for career advancement and travel. The United States military is the nation's single largest employer. It offers training and employment in over 2,000 job specialties, 75,000 of which have civilian counterparts.

There are four major branches of the military; Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Opportunities for students also exist in the Coast Guard, National Guard and the Reserves. College students who take ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) will enter the military as officers, while academically gifted students will find excellent educational opportunities at the four military academies.

Technical Colleges

There are sixteen technical colleges across Wisconsin that offers a variety of career-oriented programs that last a few months to a few years. The career-oriented programs can lead to a short-term certificate, a technical diploma or an associate degree. Some degree programs at technical colleges can be articulated at a four-year college. Programs of study include accounting, horticulture technician, nurse, police officer, physical therapy assistant, paralegal, culinary arts and clinical laboratory technician to name a few.

Two Year Colleges Freshmen-Sophomore Campuses

The University of Wisconsin has thirteen two-year colleges located in Wisconsin. The colleges offer open admission requirements, lower tuition, solid academic foundation classes, smaller classes and a guaranteed transfer program. Students complete their attendance at the two-year college and are offered guaranteed admission to a four-year public Wisconsin college if they meet specific grade point average requirements.

Four Year Colleges

Students can attain a bachelor's degree by completing a program of study at a four-year college. Four-year colleges provide students with a liberal arts education. Students receive a well rounded education where nearly forty percent of their classes are in general education (English, math, science and history). General education courses are taken freshman year. Students can begin college as an "undeclared" major, fulfill general education requirements and decide upon a major.