

Session 6 Thinking about College

You might already be thinking about a career; but almost all of the most in-demand (and highest paying) careers require some form of post-secondary education: trade school, an associate's degree, a college degree or a post-graduate degree, like one from medical or law school. So, taking things one step at a time, that means the next big step after high school will be going to a college or a trade school. That's one of the best ways to increase your career options and your earning potential. Before we start today's lesson, we want you to answer a few questions about your interests:

What is your favorite subject (s) in school? _____

What sports or physical activities do you enjoy? _____

Name your hobbies: _____

What are some of your artistic or other talents? _____

What are your areas of interest? _____

Now that you have assessed your talents and interest what types of career would be best for you and what type of degree would you need to pursue this career?

Session 6 Activity Career Path

1. Write down your career destination in the table below.
2. Add to the list on the left everything else you can think of that you can do to help reach your career destination.
3. In the right-hand column, indicate how you are going to accomplish these goals. For example, for “improve my grades” you could state that you are going to study harder or work with a tutor. Not all of these things will be relevant to your career choice, but the ones that are it may be helpful to fill out. Also, you can come up with other ways on your own that may help you reach your career goals!

My Career _____

What will I do	How will I accomplish this goal
Improve my grades	
Practice for the SAT or ACT	
Join extra-curricular activities	
Perform community service	
Get a job	
Find an internship	
Save Money	
Research schools to attend after high school	
Learn more about my career destination	
Other (any idea you may have)	
Other (any idea you may have)	

Session 6 Conclusion

Thinking about Educational Options

Next session we are going to talk about ways you can help pay for college, to end this session we are going to discuss the types of colleges for you to think about:

Four-Year Universities: (The University of Kentucky or Western Kentucky University)

- Undergraduate and graduate degrees
- Large choice of majors

Four-Year Liberal Arts Colleges: (Brescia University or Kentucky Wesleyan College)

- Generalized (not career specific) curriculum with declared majors
- Generally smaller classes than universities
- Usually more faculty-student interaction than universities

Community and Two-year Colleges: (Owensboro Community and Technical College) Open to everyone

- May be a good choice if you are not sure what to major in
- Economical way to take classes and build GPA
- Flexible hours so students can work
- Career-oriented degrees not offered by four-year colleges (such as fashion design, computer repair, food service, etc.)
- Can be a stepping stone to a four-year college or university

Technical Training or Vocational School: (OCTC or Roger's Academy of Hair Design in Evansville)

- Offers certification in particular skill (such as cosmetology, nursing assistant, computer repair, culinary arts and fashion and design schools, etc.)

Military Service: (Join a branch of the military after high school)

- Way to build character and get education while serving the country
- GI Bill helps over cost of higher education

These are some ways you can continue your education after high school. Each offer different things that are best for some people and maybe not as good for others. The important thing to remember is that you will want to find the educational or career training that is best for you and your situation.