College and Career Opportunities for High School Graduates

STEP 1: RESEARCH CAREERS & EDUCATION

Search the Occupational Outlook Handbook to learn about careers, wages, and training: https://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Research career information, training, or jobs: https://www.careeronestop.org/

Visit a local Career Center for in-person job help: https://workforce.org/career-centers/

Visit https://211sandiego.org/ to search for local educational and career programs, or call 2-1-1 for live help from a community navigator.

Search for jobs and find other career information and resources in California: CalJOBS.ca.gov

Visit San Diego Workforce Partnership's website to learn about career and training opportunities and find other information so you can make informed choices: https://workforce.org/labor-market-resources/

STEP 2: EXPLORE JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES & COLLEGES

University of California System - www.universityofcalifornia.edu
California State University System - www.csumentor.edu
PRIVATE COLLEGES IN SAN DIEGO
Alliant International University - http://www.alliant.edu/
National University - http://www.nu.edu/
Point Loma Nazerene - http://www.pointloma.edu/home.htm
University of San Diego - http://www.sandiego.edu/
COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN SAN DIEGO
Imperial Valley - http://www.imperial.edu/
Mira Costa - http://www.miracosta.cc.ca.us/
Palomar - http://www.palomar.edu/
San Diego Community College District - http://www.sdccd.edu/
City College - http://www.sdcity.edu/

Mesa College - http://www.sdmesa.edu/
Miramar College - http://www.sdmiramar.edu/
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District - http://www.gcccd.edu/
Grossmont College - http://www.grossmont.edu/
Cuyamaca College - http://www.cuyamaca.edu/
Southwestern College - http://www.swccd.edu/
Explore Colleges at www.collegeboard.org

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Tuition Waivers

- Ask about tuition waivers if you are applying to a community college.
- San Diego Promise is a grant that makes tuition free for first-time students who enroll full-time at a community college. Read more here: https://www.sdccd.edu/about/departments-and-offices/student-services-department/promise/

EOPS Program and Support for First-Time Students

- Ask about EOPS and programs for first-time students. These programs often provide new students with mentoring, early registration, and other helpful resources.
- Grossmont College Via Rapida is one example of a community college support program for first-time students. You can apply online here: https://www.grossmont.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/index.php

Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Financial aid is funding that you can apply for to help with college expenses (tuition, books, supplies, transportation, housing, etc.).
- This funding is provided by federal and state grants or scholarships awarded by your school or outside organizations.
- Scholarships are need or merit based. Learn more about scholarships here: https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships
- Your school's financial aid office will process your financial aid application using information from the FAFSA (free application for federal student aid).
- Ask your school's financial aid department about deadlines for your financial aid application. Finish the FAFSA early so that you receive the maximum available funding!

- The first step is to fill out the federal application for student aid (FAFSA) online. This form helps determine your eligibility for grants and scholarships. This information will be sent to schools you indicate on the form.
- Grants and scholarships do not have to be paid back.
- Always seek information from the official FAFSA website: fafsa.gov
- "8 Steps to Filling out the FAFSA" - https://studentaid.gov/articles/steps-to-complete-fafsa-form/
- FAFSA Overview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUis5lityCQ
- FAFSA videos on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/FederalStudentAid

How to Request Your High School Transcript

You may need to provide your high school transcript to the college where you apply for admission. Contact Smart Horizons (online school district) to request your high school transcript:

info@shcoe.org | 866-999-7853

Check out the average earnings in 2017 for people 25 years of age and older with different levels of education below.

Earnings by education attainment, 2020	
Typical entry-level education	Median annual wage, 2020[1]
Doctoral or professional degree	$110,160
Master's degree	$76,800
Bachelor's degree	$78,020
Associate's degree	$55,870
Postsecondary nondegree award	$41,520
Some college, no degree	$37,770
High school diploma or equivalent	$39,070
No formal educational credential	$27,510

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

In addition to higher earnings, unemployment rates tend to be lower as you get more education (i.e., it's easier to find a job).