

10 Examine a Variety of Degree Programs



TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will compare four types of institutions of higher education using several variables to gain a better understanding of future education and training choices.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

Higher education offers numerous post-secondary options for students both immediately following high school graduation and in the future. It is important to understand the differences and similarities among two- and four-year colleges and other types of post-secondary training options. This foundation will be helpful in making informed decisions.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

Having a college degree means . . .

❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"One thing I know about college is ____."

❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will learn about colleges and what they might offer for your future education and training."

to think about local colleges or well-known college sports teams.

❑ STEP 5: Activity - 25 Minutes

Using the **Post-Secondary Schools** handout and the **Post-Secondary Questionnaire**, explain that they will work in groups of three to answer the questions. Before dividing into groups, remind the students to designate a timekeeper, reporter and an on-task observer. After ten minutes, read each question and call on a group to give their answer. Allow time to make corrections or extend the discussion to areas of interest such as part time, changing goals and dropout.

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PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 3

LESSON 10

Post Secondary Schools

Fact Sheet

	Vocational & Technical College	Community & Junior College	Four Year College	University
Type of Program	Specialized training for specific occupations	Two-year degree programs in specific careers & transfer to four-year colleges	Four-year degree programs in specific career areas	Four-year degree programs in specific career areas & graduate degree programs
Length of Program	Nine months to two years	Two years	Four years	Four years or more
Admission Requirements	Requirements vary, usually open enrollment with high school diploma	Open enrollment with high school diploma & may require special tests	Letter of reference, GPA, above average class rank, SAT or other tests, essay	Letters of recommendation, clubs, student government, high GPA, high class rank, high SAT score, essay
Recommended High School Courses	Basic skills in English, math, science and computer literacy; vocational training is helpful	English, math, science, social studies, art, computer, technical, foreign language	English 4 yrs Math 3 yrs Science 3 yrs Social Studies 2 yrs Art 2 yrs Computer 1 yr Foreign Lang. 2 yrs	English 4 yrs Math 4 yrs Science 3 yrs Social Studies 2 yrs Art 2 yrs Computer 1 yr Foreign Lang. 2 yrs
Degrees Available	Certificate or License	Associate of Arts or AA Degree	Bachelor of Arts or BA or BS Degree	Bachelor of Arts or BA or BS Degree Master of Arts or Science, MA or M.S. Degree, Doctoral Degree, Ph.D. or Ed.D.

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❑ STEP 4: Activity - 10 Minutes

Ask: "Who can name a college?" Write responses on the board. Encourage students

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PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 3		LESSON 10	
POST SECONDARY QUESTIONNAIRE			
1.	Can you go to a community college part time?		
2.	How long does it take to earn an AA degree?		
3.	Which post-secondary school has the fewest requirements for entrance?		
4.	Which post-secondary school offers the most advanced degree programs?		
5.	What are three differences between a community college and four-year college?		
6.	Which school program has the most requirements for entry?		
7.	What preparation does community college offer students?		
8.	Which program will you most likely enter after completing high school?		

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□ STEP 6: Activity - 10 Minutes

Show students degree certificates. On the board, list the basic degrees in a hierarchical order: AA, BA/BS, MA/MS, Ph.D./Ed.D. MD. Ask students to guess how long a person usually attends college to earn the various degrees. Discuss vocational/technical colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, four-year colleges and universities. Discuss the degree options, pointing out that colleges vary in the degrees they offer. Discuss that some people take years to earn a degree and that people sometimes change their mind about wanting a degree.

□ STEP 7: Evaluate Outcomes

One degree you can earn in college is a "_____ degree."

□ STEP 8: Connecting Activity

Assign students to interview two teachers, asking them which colleges they attended, their age when they started, how long it took and what degree they earned. Assist students to go online and compare a cost of one course between two colleges.

KEY WORDS

degree	university	public	admission requirements	B.A.
private	SAT	GPA	academic courses	B.S.
GED	transfer	post secondary	community college	M.A.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Post-Secondary Schools**, page 131; **Post-Secondary Questionnaire**, page 132.
- Become familiar with the colleges in your local area. Collect brochures and information. Find college certificates to bring to class.
- Become familiar with the handout.
- Prepare for a discussion about college.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Reading, Writing, Math, Listening, Speaking
- Thinking Skills: Visualizing, Decision Making
- Personal Qualities: Sociability