

2 GETTING READY: PICKING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

WHAT CLASSES SHOULD I TAKE?

The classes you take in high school prepare you for your post high school plans. Whether you choose to pursue an **apprenticeship** or a **technical, 2-year, or 4-year college**, you will want to learn their admission requirements.

THINGS TO KNOW:

- Your high school graduation requirements **may not** be the same as college admission requirements.
- 4-year colleges have the most selective requirements.
- Technical and 2-year colleges have less selective requirements.

MATH IS IMPORTANT:

- Most college programs require you to take some math. Taking more math in high school may mean taking less math in college.
- Over 50% of high school graduates are not ready for college-level classes.
- Taking four years of high school math will help you get ready for college and can help you save on tuition costs!

REMINDER:

To receive the College Bound Scholarship you must meet the pledge requirements.

WHAT ARE COLLEGES LOOKING FOR?

- A challenging class schedule – take Honors, **Advanced Placement (AP)** and/or **International Baccalaureate (IB)** classes if they're available at your high school or learn about additional dual credit options such as **Running Start** or **Tech Prep**.
- Electives that match your career and college interests. Examples might include a career and technical education program of study that leads to a career credential or certificate.
- Some colleges may have additional requirements such as taking the **SAT** or **ACT**.
- Consider taking academic classes for your elective requirements such as foreign language and/or multiple lab sciences.

JAN: GRADE 9 and 10

GETTING READY: BUILDING YOUR COLLEGE PROFILE

Colleges don't only consider your grades. They want applicants who contribute to the **campus** community. Specific activities can make you a more competitive applicant and help you build your work resume. They can also be used in your high school and beyond plan that is required for high school graduation.

WHAT IS AN ACTIVITIES LOG/ RESUME

Some applications require an activities log/resume. This list of your **extracurricular activities** provides a sense of your involvement outside of school. You should also include a short description of your involvement for each activity.

WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD I PURSUE?

- Athletics
- College access programs
- Community service
- Faith-based/religious programs
- Family responsibilities
- Jobs or internships
- Music, drama and arts
- Summer programs
- School clubs
- Student government

start to keep track...

<input type="radio"/>	Robotics club

	_____ president

<input type="radio"/>	mechanic internship

	_____ from Jan to March '17

	_____ woods club leader

<input type="radio"/>	_____

Keep in mind: Your activities log/resume can also be useful when you apply for **scholarships** and jobs.

GOOD TO KNOW:

The level of **commitment and leadership** in your activities **matter more** in the admission review process **than the number of activities.**



NO TIME?

Colleges understand that many students have work, family and other responsibilities. Many applications include a section where you can **write about yourself or your circumstances.** For example, many students need to work multiple jobs to support their family. This is considered leadership. *Share your experience!*

DEC: GRADE 9 and 10

1 ABOUT COLLEGE AND CAREER: TYPES OF COLLEGES

The term college includes technical colleges, 2-year community colleges, **vocational** or trade schools and 4-year colleges or universities. There is not one type of college that is perfect for everyone, so it is important to explore your options.

WHERE SHOULD I GO FOR COLLEGE?

Private 2-year College/Vocational/Trade Schools

Private 2-year, vocational or trade schools provide education for a specific career. Students that graduate from these schools can become a chef, massage therapist, or paralegal.

Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs)

These schools offer **associate's degrees** and **certificates**, including for specific **trades**. Washington state has 34 public CTCs. Students that graduate from CTCs can enter many careers, such as nursing, automotive repair and cybersecurity.

Learn more about the programs they offer at checkoutacollege.com



Some CTCs now offer **bachelor's degrees**.

Public and Private 4-year College/University

These schools offer bachelor's degrees, usually completed in 4 years of full-time study. Private schools typically charge a higher **tuition** but can offer a significant amount of **scholarships** to make attendance affordable. Students that graduate from these schools can become a robotics engineer, business analyst, or nutritionist.

OCT: GRADE 11

NOV: GRADE 9 and 10

Make sure to review ANY school's **accreditation** and job placement rates.

40% of 4-year graduates in Washington started at a community college.

This chart shows common characteristics for each type of college in Washington state.

	Community and Technical Colleges	Public 4-year Colleges	Private 4-year Colleges
Selectivity All require an application . Moderate and highly selective colleges typically require applicants to submit essays, grades, test scores and other components.	Least selective	Moderate to highly selective	Moderate to highly selective
Campus Size number of undergraduate students	5,000-30,000	Over 10,000	Less than 5,000
Tuition Tuition per year for full-time enrollment (for local residents)	Low (around \$4,000)	Medium (\$7,000-\$11,000)	High (over \$30,000)
Undergraduate Degrees Offered	Certificates and associate's degrees (AA, AAS)	Bachelor degrees (BA or BS)	Bachelor degrees (BA or BS)



↑ ABOUT COLLEGE AND CAREER: ALL ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS

In an apprenticeship, you can **earn money while learning** through a combination of hands-on, **on-the-job training (OJT)** and related academic classes. Apprenticeships are competitive and rigorous, and are typically more demanding than **internships**.

APPRENTICESHIP



Apprenticeships are offered by employers (such as Boeing), **trade unions** (such as electricians or roofers) and independent programs. **Programs typically last 2-5 years** and are a good way to start a career in a well-paying field. Apprenticeship programs offer certifications, licenses and/or college **degrees**.

WHAT JOB CAN I GET AS AN APPRENTICE?

Apprenticeships are available in a variety of industries, such as **aerospace, advanced manufacturing, construction, energy and marine technology**.

Examples of careers include:

Aircraft mechanic	Electrician
Automotive mechanic	Fire fighter
Bricklayer	Plumber
Carpenter	Truck driver
Cement mason	Welder

HOW MUCH WOULD I GET PAID?

Apprentices earn money while in the program; the pay increases as they progress. Upon graduation, they become "journey-level" workers.

Starting apprentice – minimum \$18/hr + **benefits** (e.g. medical, dental and vision)

- For example, Seattle City Light apprentices earn at least \$30/hr to start.

Journey-level worker (apprenticeship graduate) – minimum \$30/hr + benefits (e.g. medical, dental, vision and retirement)

- For example, King County plumbers and pipe fitters earn around \$77/hr while cement masons in Yakima earn \$40/hr.

* HOW DO I BECOME AN APPRENTICE?

1 Make sure you meet the requirements. Generally, these include:

- High school **diploma**
- Specified abilities (may require math)
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation

2 Find a program and apply.

- Each program has unique procedures for applying.
- To learn more about the process, talk to your high school counselor or visit apprenticeship.lni.wa.gov

Information adapted from: Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. (2012). *A Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships*.

OCT: GRADE 11
NOV: GRADE 9 and 10

