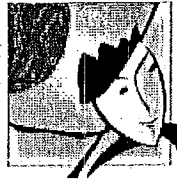


Education after high school is the first step you must take to get a well-paid career. In fact, 90% of all jobs in the future will require education after high school. The more education you have, the more money you can make and the happier you will be about your job options. Here is some information about some of your education options.



Levels of Career Education

- Technical Certificate (6 months - 2 years)
- Associates Degree (2-3 years)
- Bachelors Degree (4-5 years)
- Graduate Degree (2-6 years after Bachelors)

Money For College

Everyone can afford to go to college. Apply for Financial Aid by using FAFSA and the government student loan program can inform you about grants, loans, and/ or work-study. If your family has a low income, and you have a 2.0+ GPA, you can qualify for a grant, which is money that you do not have to pay back. You can get up to \$8,000 (amount changes if your GPA is 3.0 or higher). For more information talk to your academic counselor, or go to:

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Scholarships are a great way to get money for college as well. Requirement deadlines differ, so start looking in the 9th grade. The website www.scholarships.com can get you started!

Technical Certificate/Associates Degree

A Technical Certificate gives you the right to work in the career that you have been trained for. You can earn your Technical Certificate from a Junior College or Technical School in 6 months to 2 years depending on the career. You can also earn certificates during high school through CCOC*. You can earn between \$20-\$80 an hour with a certificate. Another option is to get an Associates Degree, which is a '2 year' college degree in a subject area.

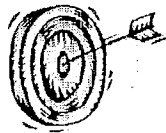
Bachelors Degree

Many careers require a Bachelors Degree such as Architect, Registered Nurse, and Computer Programmer. You can earn a Bachelors Degree in the subject of your choice by completing the course work at a '4 Year' College like San Jose State, UC Berkeley, or Stanford.

Two Paths To A '4 Year' College

Attend Right After High School

While you are in high school, earn mostly A & B grades. Take challenging classes (i.e. IB, AP, & Honors) and extra years of Math, Science, and Foreign Language. Talk to your academic counselor about: college aptitude tests (ACT, SAT), good college matches, and deadlines. If you do not get mostly A's & B's in high school, consider the transfer option below.



Transfer From A Junior College

Anyone who is 18+ years old can go to a Junior College like San Jose City, Evergreen or De Anza. You can also go there to finish the first '2 years' of classes for your Bachelors Degree. This option can help prepare you for a '4 Year' College or just save you some money. Work with the counselor at the junior college to make sure you are taking the right classes to transfer.

Graduate Degree

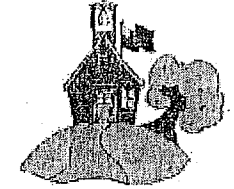
You can earn a Graduate Degree (i.e. School Credential, Masters, Doctorate) after completing your Bachelor's Degree. There are several careers that require more college after your Bachelors Degree such as Doctor (4 more years), Lawyer (3 more years), and Teacher (2 more years). Most '4 Year Colleges,' such as San Jose State and Stanford offer Graduate Degrees. This level of education might also support your career growth.



San Jose Unified School District

Academic Counseling
Middle School Program

Education Guide



- Middle School Expectations
- High School Graduation Requirements
- Alternative Options During High School
- Education/Career Options After High School

Goals are SMART - Specific, Measurable, Action based, Realistic, and Timely! Make a plan to reach your goals and you will get you what you want.

Your Education Goals (what you want):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Your Plan (what you will do) To Reach Your Goals:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



California Department of
EDUCATION

Your high school diploma opens opportunities that make taking care of yourself and your loved ones possible. There are more jobs available if you have your high school diploma, so you are more likely to have a job than to be unemployed or on welfare.

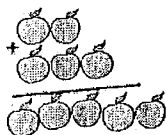


Do Well In Middle School

Did you know that the exit exam for high school tests you on what you learned in middle school? So if you do well in middle school, getting your high school diploma should be easy. Here is what you should do to be ready...

Overall GPA of 2.0+ means you are getting Cs or better in most of your classes. Strive for mostly As & Bs because that means you really understood everything you were supposed to learn. Pick a time and place to do your homework everyday and study the night before tests.

No More Than 2 Semester Fs in any subject because if you have too many Fs you might not be ready for high school. If you do get Fs, make sure to go to summer school or you might need to stay in middle school an extra year. Plus if you get too many Fs, you might be kept from 8th grade promotion activities.



Score Proficient or Advanced in your California Standards Test (CST). Like As and Bs, these scores show that you understand what you were supposed to learn this year. If you score Below Basic or Far Below Basic, you are probably behind in your reading, writing or math. You must work extra hard in your support classes so that you can catch-up and be ready for high school.

Read For 30 Minutes Daily to exercise your mind!!!

Meet with your Academic Counselor for help or to find out what else you can do to prepare for high school & beyond.

High School Diploma Requirements

Earn 240 Credits of A-G Requirements

Each semester class is worth 5 credits. You must pass 6 classes a year for 4 years to earn 240 credits. If you get a F, you will have to retake the class outside of the school day to earn your credits. You must also earn these credits from the A-G Required Classes - see below.



Pass The CAHSEE - California High School Exit Exam

The CAHSEE is a multiple choice test in Language Arts and Math with two essay questions. If you earn a C in Algebra, 300+ on the CST, and can write an organized essay, you should be able to pass. You will start taking it in the 10th grade and will have 6 chances to pass. Remember, you must pass this exam or you will NOT get your diploma.

Complete: 40 Hours of Community Service

Pass: Driver's Ed, Health & Safety, and First Aid

NOTE: In High School, you do not get retained. If you do not finish the requirements, you do not get a diploma. There are special programs if you fall behind - see your Academic Counselor for more information.

A-G Required Classes

CLASS NAME	# OF YEARS/CREDITS
English	4 Years/40 Credits
Math (minimum Algebra 2)	3 Years/30 Credits
Science (2 years of labs)	3 Years/30 Credits
Social Science	3.5 Years/35 Credits
PE	2 Years/20 Credits
Foreign Language	2 Years/20 Credits
Visual/Performing Arts	2 Years/20 Credits
Electives	4.5 Years/45 Credits

If you pass these classes with a C or higher, you meet the minimum requirements for a State or UC College.



Options In High School

Technical Certificates in High School

You can start training for a Technical Career as early as the 10th grade at CCOC* as long as you are on track to graduate. You will attend high school for half the day and CCOC for the rest of the day. Many CCOC classes can lead to well-paid jobs with your high school diploma. You can earn college credits, too. Talk to your high school counselor for more information.

*Central County Occupational Center

Examples Of Technical Careers

AC/Heater/Fridge Repair	EMT (ambulance)
Art: Graphic, Animation	Fire Science
Auto/Truck/Engine Repair	Forensic Investigation
Business Management	Law Enforcement
Carpentry/Cabinetmaking	Medical/Dental Assistant
Computer-Aided Drafting	Metal Technology
Computer Technology	Office Assistant
Cosmetology (beauty)	Probation/Legal Careers
Culinary Arts/Baking	Robotics/Engineering
Design: Interior, Fashion	Veterinary Assistant
Electrical Maintenance	Video Production

High School at Junior College

In 11th grade, you can start attending the San Jose City Middle College Program. By taking a mix of college and high school classes at the college, you will earn your high school degree and college credits at the same time. And, you can still participate in your high school's activities.



You can also attend any Junior College to make-up a failed class or simply to earn additional high school credits as long as you have permission from your high school.