

CHOOSE YOUR PATH!

There are 3 main paths students can take after high school, depending on their future goals—education, service, or work.

EDUCATION

Career and technical education (CTE) programs help students learn skills to prepare for a specific career, such as paramedic, aircraft mechanics, digital design, veterinary assisting, culinary arts, etc. Local state colleges or technical colleges offer certificates for these types of jobs.

Students can earn a **2-year associate's degree**, which can help build a body of knowledge that can prepare students for a career or further education. Associate's degrees in areas like healthcare or information technology/computer science can prepare students for work in specific fields.

Students can complete a **4-year bachelor's degree** to prepare them for work in fields like business, engineering, and teaching. They can also continue on to **graduate school** for careers in medicine, law or other fields. As part of earning a bachelor's degree, students will build a broader body of knowledge that can offer more flexibility to change careers over time.

SERVICE

Many students enlist in the **military**, where they can receive on-going training in specific jobs that can translate to civilian work. They will also have the option to return to school later using GI Bill benefits.

Students may choose to do a **service program** that allows them to explore their interests. Organizations like AmeriCorps allow them to earn money for college through service. AmeriCorps members participate in service programs such as disaster cleanup, home building, and others.

WORK

After high school, students have the option to start **working**. To increase their earning potential, they should consider exploring **apprenticeship programs**, which provide on-the-job training and education while earning a wage.