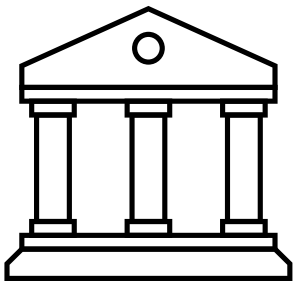


# WHAT IS COLLEGE?

**College is any type of education and training beyond high school.**

This includes community colleges, universities, career and trade schools, and on-the-job training like apprenticeships – any type of education or training that gives you a certificate, license, or degree.

## Types of colleges



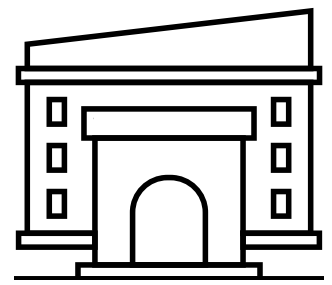
### COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Community colleges are open to everyone with a high school diploma or GED. They can prepare you for a specific career or trade, or be a stepping stone to a Bachelor's degree. Tuition rates are usually the lowest among all types of colleges.



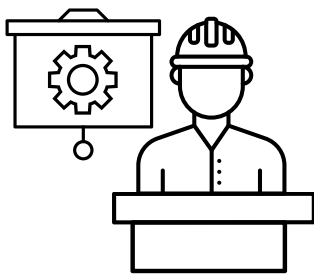
### COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

An institution that primarily offers Bachelor's degree programs. Public universities offer in-state tuition so residents pay less than out-of-state students. Private colleges usually have higher tuition rates, but may offer more financial aid.



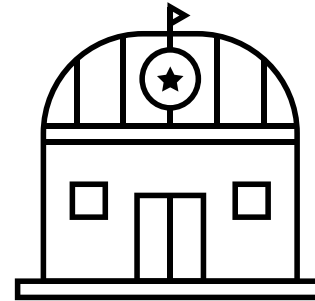
### CAREER OR TRADE SCHOOLS

Colleges that offer specialized programs for specific careers. These schools are usually for-profit businesses and may charge higher tuition rates than other types of schools.



### ON-THE-JOB TRAINING / APPRENTICESHIPS

A program where you get paid while you learn a specific trade. In Oregon, most apprenticeships are in the construction trade and offered at a community college, trade school, or Apprenticeship and Training Center (ATC)



### MILITARY

The military is a big decision. Think carefully and consider your options. Talk with family and/or a trusted adult as well as representatives from the military. Money is available for college in exchange for full-time or part-time service.

## Types of degrees



An undergraduate credential that focuses on skills for a specific career. Some careers may also require a license.



An additional certification, often requiring an initial licensing exam and continued education in the field.



An undergraduate or graduate credential that is awarded by a college or university after completing a program of study in a specific field or discipline.

