

COLLEGE BASICS

Follow the links below to take the first steps in planning for education beyond high school.

WHY GO TO COLLEGE?

72%

of jobs in the U.S. will require postsecondary education and/or training by 2031.

Check out the [Degree vs. On-the-Job Training Chart](#) to learn more!

2023 median income for those ages 22-27

Bachelor's degree:	High school diploma:
\$60,000	\$36,000

Gain the education and skills needed for your desired career field.



WHAT DO I WANT TO BE?



Complete career and interest assessments along with your other ICAP activities to learn who you are, what skills you have, and what careers would be a good fit! Check out OKcollegestart's [six free assessments](#) or the UCanGo2 [Where Am I Headed? Quiz!](#)

Get involved in extracurricular activities. [Explore careers.](#) Talk to your parents, teachers and counselors about what career field might be a good fit for you.

8 out of the top 10 fastest-growing [critical occupations](#) require an associate degree or higher.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Take the right classes to [graduate high school](#) and meet [college admission requirements](#).

Test scores aren't everything, but scoring well can open doors to education and scholarship opportunities. Use [free test prep materials](#) to prepare for the PreACT, ACT, ASVAB and more!



Consider taking college courses while still in high school to get ahead and save money! Learn more about [Concurrent Enrollment](#).

WHERE DO I START?



Take steps today to be well-prepared for your future! Develop good study habits. Set goals.

Learn about the [types of colleges](#) available to you. Get help [determining what college](#) will be the best fit for you!

Explore [postsecondary school profiles](#), [plan for campus visits](#), watch [virtual campus tours](#), and apply for admission when it's time.

HOW DO I PAY FOR IT?

Learn about the different [types of financial aid](#) available. Remember you can begin applying for [scholarships](#) early!

Explore financial aid options for Oklahoma students: [Oklahoma's Promise](#), [state scholarships](#), the [State Aid Chart](#), and [more!](#)

Check out [StartWithFAFSA.org](#) for all the FAFSA and financial aid info you need!

