



Postsecondary Planning During Your Senior Year

Germantown High School School Counseling Department

Mrs. Mueller (A-F)
Mrs. Hernandez (G-L)

Mr. Benz (M-Sch)
Mrs. Bast (Sci-Z)



Finishing High School



Graduation Requirements Class of 2012

23 credits are needed to graduate from GHS:

- ✓ English – 4 Credits
- ✓ Mathematics – 3 Credits (same track)
- ✓ Science – 3 Credits
- ✓ Social Studies – 3 Credits
- ✓ Health – 0.5 Credit
- ✓ Physical Education – 1.5 Credits
- ✓ Electives – 8 Credits



Graduation Requirements Class of 2012

If you do not know how many credits you have or are unsure if you will have enough to graduate, make an appointment to see your school counselor!!!!



**What Should I
Do After High
School?**



Postsecondary Options

- ✓ Work
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Apprenticeship
- ✓ Special Programs
- ✓ Technical School
- ✓ 2- or 4-Year College/University

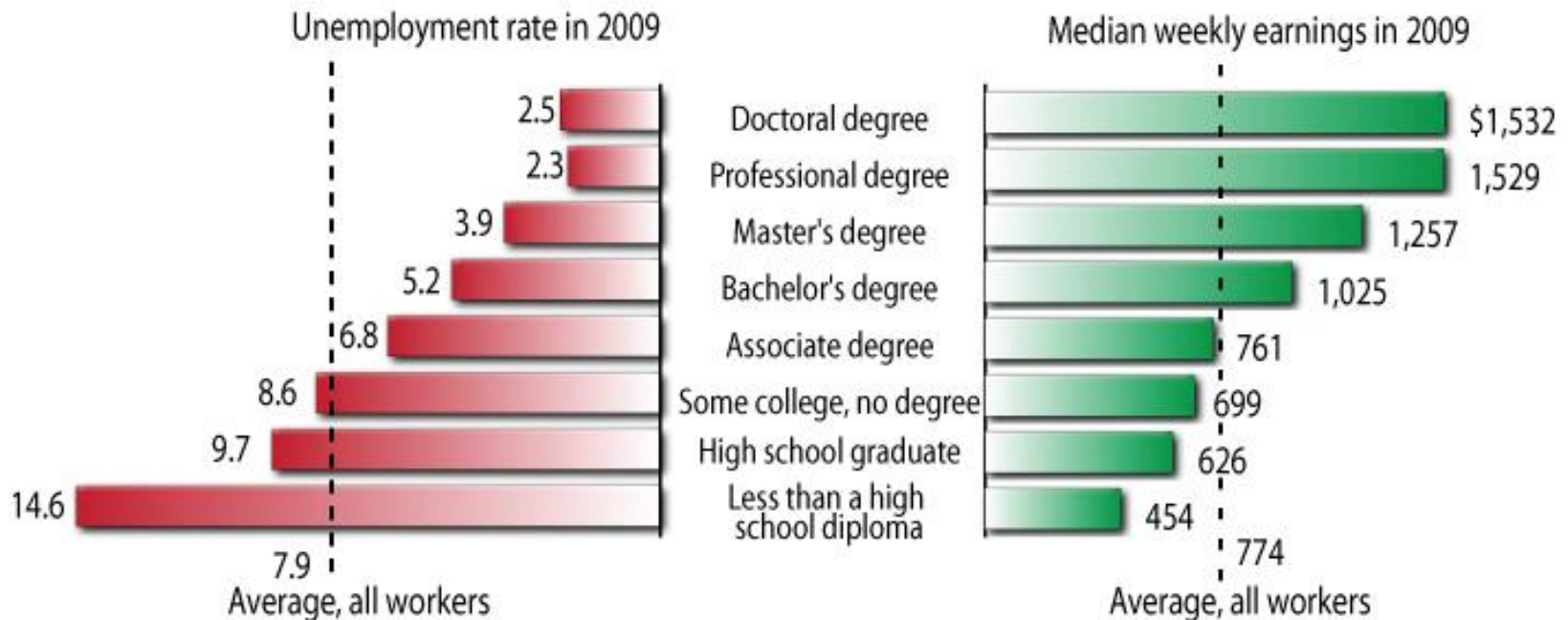


**How Do I Get
There?**

Work

- ✓ Consider some sort of postsecondary education or training

Education pays



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Military

- ✓ More information about enlisting, ROTC programs, or the military colleges and academies can be found at:
 - <http://www.todaysmilitary.com/>

Apprenticeships

- ✓ Helpful information on apprenticeships in Wisconsin can be found on these sites:
 - <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/apprenticeship/faq/faq1.htm>
 - <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/dws/apprenticeship/apprenticebooklet.pdf>
 - <http://www.matc.edu/student/offerings/apprenticeships/general.html>
 - <http://www.buildingadvantage.org>
- ✓ See your school counselor for any materials you may need for the application process, such as transcripts

Special Programs

- ✓ Examples: Aveda, Bryant & Stratton, ITT Tech, Madison Media Institute, Paul Mitchell, UTI, VICI, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, etc.
- ✓ Contact school/program you are interested in
- ✓ Visit/tour the school
- ✓ See your school counselor for any materials you may need for the application process, such as transcripts

Technical Schools

Admission Requirements:

- ✓ High School Diploma
- ✓ Placement Test
- ✓ Criminal Background Check (select programs)

Technical Schools

Application Procedure:

✓ Online Application:

- Log onto the tech college's website and access their online application
- Wisconsin Technical Colleges application can be found at <http://www.witechcolleges.com/>
- Fill out your application
- See your counselor when you have finished and submitted the application
- Bring check for application fee (and background check if necessary) if you did not pay online
- Fill out a transcript request form
- Your counselor will mail your transcript and fee(s)

✓ Paper Application:

- Contact tech college to obtain paper application
- MATC applications can be found in the School Counseling Office
- Fill out application and bring to your counselor
- Bring check for application fee (and background check if necessary)
- Fill out a transcript request form
- Your counselor will attach your transcript and mail everything out

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Not sure where to apply?

- ✓ Do some research online
 - ✓ <http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/> - (UW-System)
 - ✓ <http://privatecollegezone.org/home.aspx> - (Wisconsin Private Colleges/Universities)
 - ✓ <http://wiscareers.wisc.edu>
 - ✓ <http://www.collegeview.com/collegesearch/index.jsp>
- ✓ Think about what you're looking for in a college
 - ✓ Public or private?
 - ✓ In-state or out-of-state?
 - ✓ Majors/programs offered
 - ✓ Size
 - ✓ Location (urban, rural, etc.)
 - ✓ Student population
- ✓ Look at the admission requirements and see if you're a good fit
- ✓ Visit the schools you're interested in and take campus tours

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Admission Requirements:

- ✓ High School Diploma
- ✓ Challenging high school curriculum
 - ✓ Most schools will require the following (minimum requirements):
 - ✓ 4 Years of English, 3 years of Mathematics, 3 Years of Science, 3 Years of Social Studies, and additional electives (e.g., foreign language)
 - ✓ Competitive schools will have additional requirements
- ✓ Minimum ACT/SAT scores
 - ✓ ACT – <http://www.actstudent.org>
 - ✓ Upcoming test dates: October 22th, December 10th
 - ✓ SAT – <http://www.collegeboard.com>
- ✓ Minimum GPA/class rank

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Application Procedure:

- ✓ Online Application (preference of most colleges):
 - Log onto the college/university's website to access their online application
 - UW-System application can be found at <https://apply.wisconsin.edu/>
 - Common application can be found at <https://www.commonapp.org/CommonApp/default.aspx>
 - Fill out the application online
 - See your counselor when you have finished and submitted the application
 - Bring in the counselor form for the application (if available)
 - Bring in a check for the application fee if you did not pay online
 - Bring in any letters of recommendation
 - ✓ It is best to send these letters along with the rest of the application materials rather than separately
 - Fill out a transcript request form
 - Your counselor will attach your transcript
 - Your counselor will check to see if your ACT scores have been sent to the school you are applying to
 - ✓ If not, your counselor will make a photocopy of your score report (if the school accepts unofficial copies) or will advise you that you need to contact ACT and pay to have your score sent
 - The School Counseling Office will mail out all of your application materials

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

New for the 2011-2012 school year:

- ✓ The School Counseling Office will mail out all application materials that you initially give us or request from us (e.g., counselor forms, transcripts, ACT scores, letters of recommendation, etc.)
- ✓ If you forget to include any pieces of your application (e.g., letters of recommendation) and later need them sent, we will provide you with an addressed envelope, but you will be responsible for paying the postage

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Application Procedure:

✓ Paper Application:

- Contact the college/university to obtain a paper application
- Fill out the application and bring to your counselor
- Bring in a check for the application fee
- Bring in any letters of recommendation
 - ✓ It is best to send these letters along with the rest of the application materials rather than separately
- Fill out a transcript request form
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**How Will I
Afford It?**

Financial Aid

- ✓ Students can apply for financial aid by filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting January 1st of 2012 (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>)
- ✓ Types of financial aid:
 - Grants
 - Work Study
 - Loans
 - ✓ Perkins Loans
 - ✓ Stafford Loans
 - ✓ PLUS Loans
- ✓ It's important to apply as early as you can, as colleges/universities only have a certain amount of money to work with each year
- ✓ Other helpful websites:
 - ✓ <http://www.finaid.org>

Scholarships

Three best places to look for scholarships:

- ✓ Online

- ✓ <http://www.fastweb.com>

- ✓ <http://www.scholarships.com>

- ✓ http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

- ✓ Beware of sites that charge a fee for the scholarship search process or that guarantee scholarships

- ✓ Germantown Community Scholarship Program

- ✓ <http://www.germantownscholarship.org/>

- ✓ Applications become available in early March of senior year

- ✓ Germantown High School Website

- ✓ http://www.germantownschoools.org/schools/high/scholarship_info.cfm

- ✓ Senior Notes

- ✓ A monthly publication for seniors that contains a wide variety of information on different postsecondary options

- ✓ Scholarship information that the School Counseling Office receives is compiled and posted on the high school's website. The link will be provided in each issue of Senior Notes.

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Questions?