



There is life after high school...and you have choices!

What are my choices?

- Working in a job
- Joining the military
- Receiving specialized training at a trade school, or in an apprenticeship or internship
- Obtaining additional education at a two- or four-year college
 - This document only examines the college pathway. Consult your high school guidance counselor to explore other options.

Why Pursue College?

- Most better paying jobs require education past high school
- Obtaining a license, certification, or credential as needed for some jobs often requires college.
- On-the-job educational experiences can lead to full time employment at that training site.
- Class schedules are usually flexible and can fit around employment.
- Education provides a greater variety of lifestyle options.
- Educational experiences can make you a better person.

Why college may not be the right path at present

- College requires a large time commitment.
- Doing well in college takes a lot of work.
- College costs money and may reduce funds available for other expenses. You might decide at this time that college is not worth the financial investment you are required to make.

Financial aid makes paying for college affordable

- Aid is available to almost all students.
- The greater your need for aid, the more aid you qualify for.
- A student who has great financial need may have his/her entire college education paid for through financial aid.

How do I get financial aid?

- Fill out the **FAFSA** (the federal government's financial aid application) at fafsa.gov on-line.
- FAFSA information is used to help determine your need for financial aid.
- Your FAFSA data will be sent to any college you are interested in attending.
- The financial aid offices at the colleges receiving your FAFSA information will determine if you must submit additional information or documentation. The office will contact you if anything is needed.
- Once an aid office has completed its processing, it will send you an *Award Notification*.
- The notification lists the types and dollar amounts of aid for which you have been determined eligible.
- If your family's financial situation has declined from what was reported on the FAFSA, contact your college's financial aid office. Colleges have the authority to override FAFSA data when warranted.

Choosing which College is Best for You

- There are different types of colleges and college programs.
- Public or private. Public colleges are usually less expensive.
- Private colleges can be non-profit (such as Ashland University) for for-profit (such as Ross Medical). Private colleges often provide a more personalized education.
- Residential or commuter. Students at residential colleges usually live on campus, commuter students usually live at home.
- General education or career focused. Four-year colleges require more general education courses (math, science, English, etc.) Career-focused colleges require less general education and aim to prepare students for specific jobs.
- On-campus or distance (virtual) learning. Do you want to learn in a traditional classroom with an instructor and other students, or are you comfortable learning on-line?

How to Get into College

- Contact the admissions office at the college/s you may want to attend. An admissions representative can help you decide if that college is right for you.
- Submit an application for admission. Applications are accessed on the college's website.
- Some colleges charge an application fee. Ask for a waiver if you cannot afford it.
- You should apply for admission well ahead of the semester in which you want to start classes.
- Ask your high school guidance counselor to send a copy of your academic transcript to the college you will attend. Remember that high school offices close for the summer.
- Your college will ask you to attend a new student orientation at which you will schedule your first semester classes.

Colleges and other post-secondary educational institutions in North Central Ohio

Apex Academy

1788 West Fourth St.
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-709-8512
apexacademy2013.com

Ashland University

Admissions Office
401 College Ave.
Ashland, Ohio 44805
ashland.edu/admissions

Heidelberg University

Admissions Office
310 E. Market St.
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
800-434-3352
admission@heidelberg.edu

Madison Local School District

Adult Education Center
600 Esley Ln.
Madison, Ohio 44905
419-589-6363
mlsd.net/adultcareercenter.aspx

Mount Vernon Nazarene University

Admissions Office
800 Martinsburg Rd.
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
740-462-6868
mvnu.edu/undergraduate

North Central State College

Admissions Office
Byron Kee Center
2441 Kenwood Circle
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-755-4761
ncstatecollege.edu/admissions

Ohio State University-Mansfield

Admissions Office
104 Riedl Hall
1680 University Dr.
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-755-4300
mansfield.osu.edu/future-students/admissions

Ohio State University-Marion

Admissions Office
1461 Mount Vernon Ave.
Marion, Ohio 43302
osumarion.osu.edu

Pioneer Career & Technology Center

27 Ryan Rd.
Shelby, Ohio 44805
877-818-7282
pctc.k12.oh.us/adult-education

Ross Medical Education Center

2150 West Fourth St.
Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-747-2206
rosseducation.edu/campus/oh/ontario.php

Tiffin University

Admission Office
155 Miami St.
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
800-968-6446
tiffin.edu/admissions