

Resource Pamphlet Created by:



The Cumberland County Positive Youth Development Coalition (CCPYDC) is a county-wide juvenile delinquency prevention effort funded by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and Cumberland County Freeholders. Started in the city of Vineland in 2009, the Coalition expanded to Bridgeton and Millville in 2013. The Coalition brings together stakeholders from a number of sectors including education, law enforcement, social services, faith-based institutions, and youth-serving organizations in order to reduce juvenile delinquency and prevent those already involved in the juvenile system from becoming involved in the adult criminal justice system. The Coalition also designs and implements positive youth development strategies to help kids be successful in life

Staffing and technical assistance is provided to the Coalition by the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs at Rutgers University – Camden. Visit [rand.camden.rutgers.edu](http://rand.camden.rutgers.edu).

CCPYDC.COM



## It's Your Future: Four Paths to Success



**THIS PAMPHLET IS FOR YOU if:**

- ⇒ You are thinking about what to do after High School
- ⇒ You are thinking about **College** as your next step
- ⇒ You are thinking about joining the **Military**
- ⇒ You are wondering about getting certified in some kind of **Trade**
- ⇒ You want to get a **Job**
- ⇒ You do not know what you want to do after High School

## *Path 1: Post Secondary Education*

### *What education options exist after high school?*

#### **Community College (Associate's Degree)**

Community colleges offer Associate's Degrees and certain professional certificates. An Associate's Degree is a two year degree in which you learn the basics of your chosen major and general education knowledge. Professional certifications can include Beverage Tourism/Tasting Room Management, Teachers Aide in Early Childhood Education, and Entrepreneurship/Small Business Leadership, just to name a few. Community college provides students a cheaper option to cover the first two years of a four year degree or simply finish after two years with an Associate's Degree. Other benefits to community college include the ability to work full time and still gain an education, slowly adjust to college level academics, and explore potential areas of study. Cumberland County College has partnerships with Fairleigh Dickson University, Georgian Court University, and Montclair State University, where students can continue their studies for a Bachelor's Degree. The average person with an Associate's Degree makes \$836 a week compared to \$712 with only a high school diploma.

Cumberland County College Contact Information: 856-691-8600  
Webpage: [www.cccnj.edu](http://www.cccnj.edu)

#### **Traditional Four Year College (Bachelor's Degree)**

Traditional universities, such as Rutgers University–Camden or Rowan University, are aimed at preparing students for careers. This is commonly done through four year programs in certain areas of study. The first two years of these programs are meant to improve students general education knowledge, while allowing them to explore their chosen major. The third and fourth year are the years that a student will dive head first into their major and will begin to prepare for a career in their chosen field. The benefits of traditional college include increased educational and occupational connections (networking), an ability to explore interests, and personal growth. The average weekly income for a person with a Bachelor's Degree is \$1,173.

going to be some type of reward, such as real-world work experience and the ability to build your resume. **Sometimes internships are also used to satisfy educational requirements and qualifications for the student's future career.**

#### **Volunteer Work**

Volunteer work can produce an endless amount of benefits. One of the main benefits is that volunteer work allows an individual to build their resume, while exploring potential careers. Not only will you be able to enhance your resume, but at the same time, will earn valuable references and network connections. There are few things more important while looking for a career than a good reference. Volunteer work will also allow individuals to learn how to become a leader and work in a team. School-career services may help you find a volunteer opportunity, providing a second to none learning experience. Volunteer work may even lead into a career or aid in getting additional scholarships.

### *Job Interview Quick Tips*

- Research company/organization and the position of interest prior to showing up.
- Treat everyone in the building as if they are the one hiring you.
- Speak clearly. Don't use words that you're not sure what they mean.
- Have specific questions prepared going into the interview. It's OK to have them written down and refer to your notes during the interview.
- Relax. It's totally normal to be nervous in an interview. Believe it or not, your interviewer is probably a little nervous too.

Also, go to <https://ccpydc.com/resources/> and check out the **Finding Employment Quick Tips Booklet.**

## *What is the difference between a Job and a Career?*

A job can be viewed as short-term. It is something you do for money or a paycheck. Although a job and career both involve working, money, and service, a career differs since it describes long term employment in a field you are passionate about, or enjoy. A career is the work you see yourself doing for the rest of your life. We all strive to have a career that we love one day, not just a job to pay the bills.

## *New Jersey Civil Service Test*

NJ Civil Service Test is a starting point that can aid with directly entering the work force. The NJ Civil Service Test are tests offered periodically for those that are interested in civil service careers within State, County, or Municipal government. Careers such as law enforcement, public works, and environmental specialists are all covered under different Civil Service Tests offered by the Civil Service Commission. The test allows for the government to measure the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to perform the duties of a particular career path. Taking the Civil Service Test does not automatically get you a job. Taking the test will allow the test taker to be evaluated to advance in the hiring process. Careers in the public sector offer the ability to make the state a better place to live and work in. Continually check the Civil Service Commission's website for job announcements, test dates, and testing facility locations. The website is updated daily with new announcements. For more information go to [www.state.nj.us/csc/](http://www.state.nj.us/csc/)

## *How to gain valuable work experience*

### Internships

An internship is a job for a fixed period of time, to gain real-world work experience. For example, if a student is going to school for finance, s/he may want to look into interning at a finance department of a major company. More often than not, internships are going to be unpaid, but some offer stipends or limited pay. A stipend is a fixed, regular payment, usually meant to pay for something specific. It is important to remember that in a sense there is always

### Trade/Technical School

Technical/Trade schools offer professional certificates and differ from the traditional college experience. The primary difference is that trade schools are career focused from the start. The majority of classes/workshops will be directly related to a chosen career path. The benefits to trade schools are a shorter completion time than traditional college, specific job training/experience, and career placements. It is difficult to determine how much more a week individuals with trade school certifications earn compared to high school graduates because there are so many different trades and they vary dramatically in salaries, but the average trade school graduate will earn around \$42,000 per year, which is slightly less than if had a Bachelor's degree. Types of trade schools include agriculture science, automotive services, aviation technology, computer science, and culinary arts.

## *How do I pay for my education?*

### Financial Aid

The first step for getting financial assistance towards college is to fill out your *Free Application for Student Federal Aid* (FAFSA). FAFSA will help determine what federal aid (depending on your school, state, and other financial aid) you are eligible to receive to pay for school. Most financial aid can be used on tuition, class books, and school supplies.

*Visit [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov) for more information. You can also fill out your FAFSA online at this site.*

### Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)

The EOF provides financial aid and support to New Jersey students who come from economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds. Funds from EOF can be used for tuition, class materials, and school supplies, and are only available to students who attend schools in New Jersey. To find out if you are eligible, contact the Financial or EOF Office at the school you are applying to or go to: [https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/EOF/EOF\\_Eligibility.shtml](https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/EOF/EOF_Eligibility.shtml)

## *How do I pay for my education? (continued)*

### **Grants and Scholarships**

Grants and scholarships are financial assistance that will help pay for college or trade school. However, there are important differences between the two. Although most of the time neither has to be repaid, they come from different places. A grant is based on the needs of a prospective student. Grants usually come directly from the school the student is attending or the federal government. For example, the Federal Pell Grant is an award that undergraduates may receive. The amount of money this grant gives a student is based upon a number of factors including cost of attendance, financial needs, and whether school attendance is part time or full time.

Scholarships are harder to describe because there are so many different types. Most scholarships are merit based awards. For example, there are scholarships for achieving a certain level of academic success, as well as for achieving levels of success in sports. There are also scholarships for certain types of people. For instance, there is the AICPA Scholarship for Minority Accounting Students and the Candice's Sickle Cell Disease Scholarship. Scholarships can be found for any number of criteria. It is your task to research and apply for scholarship opportunities.

### **Scholarship Resources:**

- [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
- [www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships)

### **Federal and Non-Federal Work-Study**

There are two types of Work-Study programs that can aid students in helping to pay for college. Federal Work-Study is a federally funded program for students who need help paying for college. To be considered for Federal Work-Study, the student must check "Yes" under the question "Are you interested in student employment?" on the FASFA. If you receive the Federal Work-Study award it will appear on your financial aid statement. The amount of potential earnings from Federal Work-Study is based solely upon the student's financial needs. Work-Study is a job placement the student will receive from their school. Most Work-Study positions are jobs on campus, such as door monitors,

## *Path 4: Entering the Workforce*

Education is not the right path for everyone and neither may be the military. This leaves the path of directly entering the workforce. Some individuals will enter the workforce to save money for future education, while others will look to start a career. No matter what the reasons, directly entering the workforce right out of high school has its positives and negatives. For instance, directly joining the workforce allows you to earn money instead of spending it. This may limit future debts such as college loans. Directly entering the workforce also allows you to gain a sense of independence and real world knowledge. However, there are also disadvantages, such as limited career opportunities, limited potential earnings, and reduced starting salaries due to having less formal education.

### *Examples of Careers that Do Not Require a College Degree*

- Small Business Owner
- Tractor-Trailer Driver
- Social and Human Service Assistant
- Home Health Aid
- Secretary/Administrative Assistant
- Police/Correctional Officer (in some jurisdictions)
- Farmer/Rancher
- Bank Teller

### *Employment Resources*

Center for Workforce and Economic Development, 856-696-6600, [www.co.cumberland.nj.us/workforcedevelopment](http://www.co.cumberland.nj.us/workforcedevelopment), 3322 College Drive, Vineland, New Jersey 08360

[www.nj.gov/nj/employ/seekers/](http://www.nj.gov/nj/employ/seekers/)

[www.careerbuilder.com/](http://www.careerbuilder.com/)

[www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com)

## Local Military Recruiting Stations

### **Air Force South Jersey Recruitment Station**

333 Tilton Road  
Northfield, NJ 08225  
609-641-0499

<https://www.airforce.com/>

### **Army South Jersey Recruitment Station**

500 E. Landis Ave.  
Vineland, NJ 08360  
856-691-2214

<https://www.goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter.html>

### **Coast Guard Recruitment Station**

Plaza 9, 1333 New Road #8  
Northfield, NJ 08225  
609-484-8260

<https://www.gocoastguard.com/about-us/find-recruiter/states/NJ/2>

### **New Jersey National Guard**

3111 Route 38 West  
Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054  
609-562-0975

<https://state.nationalguard.com/new-jersey>

### **Marine Corps Recruiting Sub-Station South Jersey**

609 Berlin Cross Keys Rd.  
Sicklerville, NJ 08081  
856-262-8424

<https://www.mrc.marines.mil/1stmcd/Recruiting-Stations/Recruiting-Station-New-Jersey/>

### **Navy South Jersey Recruitment Station**

818 Haddonfield Rd., Suite 5  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002  
215-734-3311

[www.navy.com/local](http://www.navy.com/local)

secretaries, and residential advisors. The student's pay wage is usually minimum wage with part of that going straight to tuition. Federal Work-Study students usually work a flexible 15-20 hours a week. The second type of Work Study program is the Non-Federal Work-Study. Non-Federal Work-Study programs are funded by the school the student is attending. In short, it is basically a job, paid for by your school. A key aspect to remember is that Non-Federal Work-Study is available to any student on campus regardless of socioeconomic level. Most colleges limit a student's work week to a maximum of 25 hours. Both types of Work-Study programs aid students in paying for their educational expenses, while increasing students' career experience.

## *So what are these SAT and ACT tests all about?*

### **SAT/ACT Testing**

A key factor to getting into college and obtaining scholarships is test scores. Two important tests are the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and the ACT (American College Testing). These tests are designed to assess a person's knowledge in literacy, mathematics, and writing. Additionally, the ACT covers knowledge of general science. Most colleges use these tests as part of their admissions process. Thus, it is important to prepare for these tests properly and be ready well in advance of the morning of the test. Universities all around the country offer merit-based scholarships focused strictly on SAT and ACT scores; meaning that a student can earn thousands of dollars in scholarships simply by obtaining high test scores. Students tend to take these tests prior to their senior year of high school. Please see your school's guidance counselor for more information.

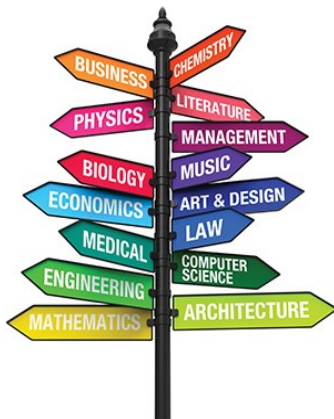


## How do I know what post-secondary program is right for me?

There are a number of factors to consider:

- **TIME:** Consider how much time you want to put into going to school before you begin your career.
- **COST:** Some colleges are more expensive than others. Be sure to take into account how much debt you may take on from loans versus how much money your degree or program earns after graduation.
- **CAREER OUTLOOK:** When choosing a program or degree, research the types of jobs you can acquire with the certification and whether the skill or degree is currently in demand on the job market.
- **FOLLOW YOUR HEART:** Choose a program that is in a field where you want to spend the rest of your life working in. Choose a college that offers a major that you're passionate about, whether it is film or accounting. The number of majors colleges offer is incredible. Yes, future earnings are important, but no one wants to spend their lives doing something they don't enjoy.

Many schools have academic advisors and career counselors to guide students. Be sure to take advantage of these resources.



## Path 3: Joining the Armed Forces

Many young men and women join the armed forces every year. Some do it because they were raised in a military family, others do it for patriotic reasons, and some even do it just to make sure they'll have a steady income. No matter what the reason, joining the armed forces is an option for many individuals. Each of the five branches of the military: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, offer specialized training programs fitted to the needs of their missions. It is important to note that this option is different than any other one listed in this pamphlet because you sign a contract that commits you to the armed forces for a number of years. Most commitments range from 4 to 8 years of service.

### Benefits of Joining the Military

- Service to your country
- Guaranteed paycheck, housing, health benefits, dental care and utilities
- Potential for free college during/after military service
- Career training
- Stable and interesting career
- 30 days annual paid vacation

### Potential Careers in the Military

- Aircraft Electrician
- Chaplain
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Officer
- Culinary Specialist
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Specialist
- Firefighter
- Infantryman
- Military Police Officer
- Public Affairs Broadcast Specialist

*These are just a few of the hundreds of career paths in the Military.*

## Local Apprenticeship Coordinators

<p><b>Atlantic County Technical School</b></p> <p>Gina DeMaio gdemaio@acitech.org 609-625-2249 ext: 1144 www.acitech.org/cms</p>	<p><b>Gloucester County Technical School</b></p> <p>Ed Ferrari eferrari@gcecnj.org 856-468-1445 ext: 2114 www.gcit.org/</p>
<p><b>Salem County Technical School</b></p> <p>Helen Hoffman hhoffman@scvts.org 856-769-0101 ext: 5356 www.sevts.org</p>	<p><b>Cumberland County Technical School</b></p> <p>Anthony Bermudez Abermudez@cctecnj.org 856-451-9000 ext: 3209 www.cumberland.tec.nj.us</p>

If you are unable to reach the County Apprenticeship Coordinator contact USDOL-Office of Apprenticeship at (732) 750 - 0766.

## Additional Apprenticeship Resources

- Information about construction and trades career:  
[www.chooseconstruction.org/](http://www.chooseconstruction.org/)
- NJ Building & Construction Trades Council Youth Transition to Work Program:  
[www.njbctc.org/yttw/](http://www.njbctc.org/yttw/)
- NJ Department of Labor Career Connections:  
[https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/prepare/skills/apprentice/learn\\_about\\_registered\\_apprenticeships.shtml](https://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/prepare/skills/apprentice/learn_about_registered_apprenticeships.shtml)
- Frequently Asked Questions about Apprenticeships:  
[www.dol.gov/featured/apprenticeship/faqs](http://www.dol.gov/featured/apprenticeship/faqs)

[www.nj.gov/labor/forms\\_pdfs/apprenticeship/apprenticeshipfaqs.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/labor/forms_pdfs/apprenticeship/apprenticeshipfaqs.pdf)

## Local County Community Colleges, Universities, and Trade Schools

<p><b>Cumberland County College</b> Vineland, NJ 08362 856-691-8600  <a href="http://www.cccnj.edu/">http://www.cccnj.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>ASI Career Institute</b> Turnersville, NJ 08012 856-232-4677  <a href="http://asi.edu/">http://asi.edu/</a></p>
<p><b>La Salle University</b> Philadelphia, PA 19141 215-951-1000  <a href="https://www.lasalle.edu/">https://www.lasalle.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>Shore Beauty School</b> Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234 609-645-3635  <a href="https://shorebeautyschool.edu/">https://shorebeautyschool.edu/</a></p>
<p><b>Rowan University</b> Glassboro, NJ 8028 856-256-4000  <a href="https://www.rowan.edu/">https://www.rowan.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>Lincoln Technical Institute</b> Moorestown, NJ 08057 856-722-9333  <a href="https://www.lincolntech.edu/campus/moorestown-nj">https://www.lincolntech.edu/campus/moorestown-nj</a></p>
<p><b>Rutgers University–Camden</b> Camden, NJ 08102 856-225-1766  <a href="https://www.camden.rutgers.edu/">https://www.camden.rutgers.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>P B Cosmetology Education</b> Gloucester, NJ 08030 856-456-4927  <a href="https://pbbeautyschool.com/">https://pbbeautyschool.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Stockton University</b> Galloway, NJ 08205 609-652-1776  <a href="https://stockton.edu/">https://stockton.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>Pennco Tech</b> Blackwood, NJ 08012 877-593-0887  <a href="https://www.penncotech.edu/">https://www.penncotech.edu/</a></p>
<p><b>Temple University</b> Philadelphia, PA 19141 215-204-7000  <a href="https://www.temple.edu/">https://www.temple.edu/</a></p>	<p><b>Prism Career Institute</b> Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 856-317-0100  <a href="https://www.prismcareerinstitute.edu">https://www.prismcareerinstitute.edu</a></p>

## Path 2: Apprenticeships

### What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is the beginning of a career in the skilled trades. Apprenticeships refer to the training process to become a certified person. Skilled trades are jobs that are done with the hands, such as construction, plumbing, and welding. The process can vary depending on the profession, but generally, include classroom learning and on the job training under the supervision of a journeyman/tradesman. After completing a certain number of training and classroom activity hours, the apprentice will take a certification test. Upon certification, the apprentice will graduate and become a journeyman in the trade. Apprenticeships can take from 1 to 6 years, but most programs take 4 years from start to finish.

### *What are some examples of in demand and fast growing apprenticeships in today's economy?*

- Boilermakers
- Construction Laborers
- Electricians
- Elevator Construction Workers
- Insulators
- Iron Workers
- Maintenance and Repair Workers
- Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons
- Tile-Setters



## Building and Construction Trades Wages

Trade	Apprenticeship Starting Wage	Journeyman Wage
Laborers	\$19.62	\$32.70 Per Hour
Operating Engineers	\$22.73	\$37.23 Per Hour
Carpenters	\$16.60	\$41.49 Per Hour
Iron Workers	\$19.29	\$38.76 Per Hour
Bricklayers	\$15.13	\$38.55 Per Hour
Roofers	\$13.86	\$34.77 Per Hour
Painters	\$14.65	\$36.62 Per Hour
Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons	\$14.78	\$36.75 Per Hour
Insulators	\$ 21.57	\$46.94 Per Hour
Pipe Trades	\$15.08	Plumber - \$43.08 Per Hour
	\$17.20	Steam Fitter - \$49.16 Per Hour
	\$11.25	Sprinkler Fitter - \$52.63 Per Hour
	\$16.00	HVAC - \$33.28 Per Hour
Electricians	\$20.06	\$50.15 Per Hour
Telecommunications	\$17.61	\$39.13 Per Hour
Sheet Metal	\$13.59	\$36.37 Per Hour
Boilermakers	\$26.44	\$40.67 Per Hour
Elevator Constructors	\$27.88	\$50.69 Per Hour
Tile Setters	\$26.38	\$51.01 Per Hour