

Lesson 2

Community College vs. University and College Now: *Coach Guide*

Learning Goals

1. Students will understand the different degree types available from community colleges and universities.
2. Students will learn about the different paths of pursuing an associate and/or bachelor's degree.
3. Students will learn about College Now: earning college credit while still in high school

Introduction (~1 minute)

- **Briefly recap the previous session**
 - Repeat some of the different types of post-secondary education that the students came up with during the previous session: universities, community colleges, culinary school, military, law school, trade school, ROTC.
 - Let them know this session will be focusing specifically on the differences between community college and university.

GEAR UP Video Activity (~10 minutes)

- Share your screen with the students to watch this 5-minute video about the different paths for pursuing an education from a community college, university, or both!
- <http://www.ownyourownfuture.com/8th/find/video-hub/different-types-of-postsecondary-education/>
- Ask students to write down one benefit each of pursuing an education at either a community college, university, or transferring from a community college to a university.
 - Have one student share a benefit for each.

Different Degrees (~5 minutes)

- There are several different degree types one can earn from a community college or university: But the two most common degree types are an Associate or Bachelor's.
- **Associate's Degree vs. Bachelor's**
 - Ask the students if they have ever heard of the term "Associate's Degree." If so—call on someone to define it.
 - Associate's Degree: *An undergraduate academic degree awarded by community colleges, junior colleges, technical colleges, and universities upon completion of a course of study usually lasting 2-3 years. Some jobs that require only an associate's degree include technicians, dental hygienists, paramedics, teachers in early-childhood programs, engineering technicians, criminal justice jobs, paralegals, and machinists.*

Median income: \$39,936 per year—Avg. tuition \$2,000-\$3,000 per year



- Now ask if anyone can define the term “Bachelor’s Degree.”
- Bachelor’s Degree: *An academic degree awarded by a college or university to a person who has completed at least 120 credits (or 8 semesters) of undergraduate studies—usually taking about 4-6 years. Many careers require at least a bachelor’s degree some of which include: an Engineer, Supply Chain Manager, Teacher, Journalist, Computer Programmer, Nurse, Accountant, Architect, or Web Designer.*

Median income: \$54,756 per year—

The average cost to earn a Bachelor’s Degree can range anywhere from \$9,000-30,000 per year depending on whether you are going to college in-state or out of state, and whether you are going to a public or private university. In-state public universities tend to be the much less expensive.

College Now: Earn College Credit in High School (~10 minutes)

- **What is a College Now?**
 - Open the Lesson 2 PowerPoint and screen share with your students. Make sure they can see the PowerPoint clearly before proceeding.

Closing/Assignment (~5 minutes)

- **Wrap-up**
 - Use the remaining time to let students ask you questions about college.
 - Optional: Give students a short assignment for next time.

