



You're a teen, you're smart, you're employable. So why go to college? There are lots of reasons. But one is money. You'll earn more of it — short-term and long-term — if you get a diploma beyond your high school degree.

Legal

Occupation	Annual Salary	Education
Lawyer	\$31,100-\$87,100	professional degree
Paralegal	\$21,500-\$29,600	associate degree
Court reporter	\$18,500-\$25,300	vocational training

A recent U.S. Census bureau study showed that Americans' lifetime earnings increase as their education level rises.

- Those with an associate degree earn salaries **26 percent higher** than those with only a high school diploma.
- Those with a bachelor's degree had salaries **57 percent higher** than those with only a high school diploma.
- Earnings of those with a master's degree had salaries **90 percent higher** than those with only a high school diploma.

But how does that happen? First of all, college prepares you not just to work harder, but smarter. Kentucky is known for that. A U.S. Department of Commerce study last year showed Kentucky ranks in the top 15 states nationally for manufacturing done by means of smart workers — those who use better management to create

value for products. A liberal arts education, along with insights into a career direction from well-informed faculty and staff, will help you not only find a job, but do the kind of work that will get you promoted in a hurry.

A college or university degree also helps you earn more money by showing you what you really like to do — something that can make the difference in your keeping a job and becoming successful in the career or vocation you choose after college.

Life is more than a paycheck. It's about finding your place in the world. And without a college education,

you could end up bumping from one job or career direction to the next, racking up a smudgy work history that could follow you and hurt your chances for real satisfaction in a job, career or vocation you love.

The four years you spend in a college or university curriculum will help you experiment with life direction in a safe environment.

Construction

Occupation	Annual Salary	Education
Engineer	\$39,000-\$76,300	bachelor's degree
Architect	\$32,000-\$65,000	bachelor's degree
Drafter	\$24,000-\$32,800	vocational training
Brickmason	\$23,500-\$35,000	high school

High-Tech

Occupation	Annual Salary	Education
Systems Analyst	\$36,900-\$67,100	bachelor's degree
Computer Programmer	\$29,100-\$47,600	bachelor's degree
Computer Support Specialist	\$24,600-\$41,100	associate degree

