

# PRESENTER SCRIPT: THE TEN BENEFITS OF CONTINUING YOUR EDUCATION ASSEMBLY

*Actions and presenter notes are in blue italic font.*

**Suggested script is in bold font.**

*Presenter welcomes students to the assembly.*

**Presenter: Today we are here to talk about the future—your future.**

## **ACTIVITY #1 CAREER CHOICES**

*Begin the first activity.*

*Choose two students randomly from the assembly—preferably a girl and a boy. Hand one student the name tag labeled “high school” and the other student, the name tag labeled “postsecondary education” Give each student a set of career cards, which are in the exact same order. The top card should read **Pharmacy Technician** for both. Each student holds their card set so the audience can see the careers on the cards.*

**Presenter: Today we are going to talk about careers that someday you may want as a job. We are going to pretend that both of you have graduated from high school.**

**Presenter: One of you has continued on and completed postsecondary education; like a career technical school, a community college or a four-year university.**

*Presenter points to that student with the postsecondary label.*

**Presenter: The other has completed high school and wants to start work right away.**

*Presenter points to student with high school label.*

**Presenter: Let’s look at the following careers and see which careers are available to these students.**



*Students both hold Pharmacy Technician card.*

**Presenter:** Does this career require more than a high school diploma? Raise your hand if you think it does. *(Pause)*

**Presenter:** No? Some of you raised your hand and some did not.

The **Pharmacy Technician** career is something that both students can do because it requires only a high school diploma. (The high school graduate or the student with the postsecondary degree can be a Pharmacy technician.) So, both students can keep this career.

**Presenter:** The next card is the **Dental Hygienist**. Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Architect**. Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Oil Field Worker**. Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Pause. Hands are not raised.*

**Presenter:** You're right if you did not raise your hand. This is a job that both the high school representative and the student with a postsecondary degree can do. Both students can keep their cards.

**Presenter:** Next card? **Website Developer.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Nurse.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Veterinarian.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Bank Teller.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Pause. Hands are not raised.*

**Presenter:** You're correct if you did not raise your hand. This is a job that both the high school representative and the student with a postsecondary degree can do. Both students can keep their cards.

**Presenter:** Next card? **Electrical Engineer.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Next card? **Pharmacist.** Audience, does this career require more than a high school diploma? What do you think? Raise your hand if you think it does.

*Hands are raised.*

**Presenter:** Good, I see a lot of hands. This career does need more education, so I will take the high school student's card away.

*Presenter takes card from high school representative and places card face down on the floor.*

**Presenter:** Now, let's count the cards that each representative has...

*Presenter turns first to the high school representative.*

**Presenter:** How many career cards do you have?

*Student counts cards. Answer: 3*

*Presenter turns next to the representative who has a postsecondary degree.*

**Presenter:** Tell me how many cards that you have?

*Student counts cards. Answer: All 10.*

**Presenter: Audience, what does this tell us about career choices and opportunities? Who can volunteer to answer that question?**

*Waits for a show of hands.*

*Answer: People who continue their education after college have more opportunities and choices.*

**Presenter: You are right! College graduates have what is called “career independence”—the opportunity to rely on their postsecondary education to provide career choices. This is one of the benefits of continuing your education beyond high school.**

## **ACTIVITY #2 – Think, PAIR, Share**

**Presenter:** I want each of you in the audience to **THINK** for a moment of another benefit of continuing your education after high school.

*Pause for 2 minutes to allow think time.*

**Presenter:** Now turn to your neighbor and **SHARE** a benefit of continuing your education.

*Pause for 5 minutes for neighbors to discuss.*

**Presenter:** Now, could I have some volunteers share out some benefits that you discussed?

*Presenter calls on three or four pairs to share out their ideas.*

**Presenter:** All of those ideas sound great! Let's compare what you just shared with what the researchers suggest are the **TOP 10 Benefits** for continuing your education. Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you are more likely to have these things. We will count them down from ten to one. First, I need 11 volunteers.

## ACTIVITY #3 COUNTDOWN OF TOP 10 BENEFITS

*Presenter chooses 11 new volunteers from the audience. The presenter lines them up with their backs to the audience, and hands them a poster that the audience cannot see. The posters should be lined up as a countdown from 10 to 0. The numbers of the posters are on the back. The number 10 poster should be closest to the presenter, then number 9, etc.*

**Presenter: Okay, I need some help with this Countdown of the top 10 benefits of continuing your education after high school. Audience, when I say “10”, you say “10” and then we will reveal the poster with the benefit of postsecondary education. Okay, here goes Number 10.**

*Pause for audience to say number 10. Volunteer with number 10 poster turns around to show the audience.*

**Presenter: Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you are more likely to have a more satisfying family life.**

**Presenter: Alright! The countdown continues with number 9!**

*Pause for audience to say number 9. Volunteer turns around with number 9 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Research suggests that if you have a postsecondary degree you are more likely to live longer and healthier. Now for number 8!**

*Pause for audience to say number 8. Volunteer turns around with number 8 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter says: Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you are more likely to be prepared for success in a technology-driven world. Now for number 7!**

*Pause for audience to say number 7. Volunteer turns around with number 7 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter says: Number 7- Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you have fewer limits to your career choices. Now for number 6!**

*Pause for audience to say number 6. Volunteer turns around with number 6 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 6- Research suggests earning a postsecondary degree is a way in which people feel a sense of accomplishment. On to number 5!**

*Pause for audience to say number 5. Volunteer turns around with number 5 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 5- Research suggests that postsecondary education provides you with opportunity to develop your creativity and problem-solving skills. Number 4!**

*Pause for audience to say number 4. Volunteer turns around with number 4 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 4- Research suggests that people who have a postsecondary degree are more active in making a difference in their communities through things like volunteering and running for office. Number 3!**

*Pause for audience to say number 3. Volunteer turns around with number 3 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 3- Research suggests pursuing postsecondary education gives you opportunities to connect with peers and mentors. We're almost there! Number 2...**

*Pause for audience to say number 2. Volunteer turns around with number 2 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 2- Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you are more likely to be happier in your job.**

*Pause.*

**Presenter: And our Number 1 reason for students to continue their education is.....**

*Pause for audience to say number 1. Volunteer turns around with number 1 poster to the audience.*

**Presenter: Number 1- Research suggests if you have a postsecondary degree you will earn an average of \$1 million more over your lifetime. Wow!**

*Pause.*



**Presenter:** The great thing is that all students CAN have these 10 benefits of continuing their education because **THIS** school has been awarded a GEAR UP GRANT! So, let's show the LAST poster.

*The presenter asks the last student to turn around and reads the poster about the GEAR UP GRANT and its benefits.*

**Presenter:** This 7-year grant has been awarded to this school and will support your postsecondary goals, increase your families' college and career awareness, provide you with college campus visits, and prepare you for success after high school.

**Presenter:** The GEAR UP Grant is committed to giving all students the opportunity to attend a postsecondary school of your choice. As students, you need to be committed too! We have several opportunities today for you to commit to continuing your education by being an active participant in our GEAR UP Grant. Congratulations to the Class of \_\_\_\_\_!

**Presenter:** Now we will take a class photo with the posters to launch our GEAR UP journey.

*Presenter or staff member has everyone remain in bleachers. Have students in the front row hold the posters but where their faces can be seen. A camera with an SD card is provided for the photo.*

*After the class photo is taken, remove posters to be hung in the school later.*

## ACTIVITY #4- LEARNING STATIONS

*Pass out the learning stations checklist to every student.*

**Presenter:** Today you have an opportunity to participate in and launch our new GEAR UP Grant. We have some learning stations around the room. With your checklist, you will go to all five learning stations. Once you have gone to all five, your completed checklist will be your **EXIT TICKET** back to class. Let me explain the stations first:

*Presenter and staff may number students off one through five and send them to their first booth.*

**Station 1: Get "Buttoned Up for GEAR UP.** Pick up your 1st GEAR UP button to show your support of the GEAR UP Grant. The button is to remind you that this 7-year grant will support your postsecondary goals and help you prepare for those goals.

**Station 2: GEAR UP Banner.** Sign the GEAR UP banner. Your signature says that you are "IN" with us on a path to continue your education after high school!

**Station 3: Strike a Pose.** Stop by the photobooth with your friends or class members to take a photo with one of the posters about the benefits of going to college most significant to you. There are lots of props there to "ham it up" for the camera! There are three staging areas for your group to: 1) pick out your props, 2) get your pose ready, 3) smile and say GEAR UP!

**Station 4: A Note to Your Future Self.** Write a note to yourself of what you will do THIS YEAR to be more college and career ready. Seal your letter in an envelope and put your name on it. Place the letter in the folder provided.

**Station 5: Evaluation.** How did we do? Complete an evaluation of this assembly about the 10 benefits of continuing your education and the information about the GEAR UP Grant. Using the pens provided, select an answer for each question by completely filling in the bubbles.

*After students have attended all five learning stations, the assembly is over.*



## **Station 1: Get "Buttoned Up for GEAR UP.**

**Pick up your 1st GEAR UP button to show your support of the GEAR UP Grant. The button is to remind you that this 7-year grant will support your postsecondary goals and help you prepare for those goals.**



## Station 2: GEAR UP Banner.

Sign the GEAR UP banner. Your signature says that you are “IN” with us on a path to continue your education after high school!



### **Station 3: Strike a Pose.**

Stop by the photobooth with your friends or class members to take a photo with one of the posters about the benefits of going to college most significant to you. There are lots of props there to “ham it up” for the camera! There are three staging areas for your group to: 1) pick out your props, 2) get your pose ready, 3) smile and say GEAR UP!



## Station 4: A Note to Your Future Self.

Write a note to yourself of what you will do THIS YEAR to be more college and career ready. Seal your letter in an envelope and put your name on it. Place the letter in the folder provided.



## Station 5: Evaluation.

How did we do? Complete an evaluation of this assembly about the 10 benefits of continuing your education and the information about the GEAR UP Grant. Using the pens provided, select an answer for each question by completely filling in the bubbles.

