

What is the MILITARY?

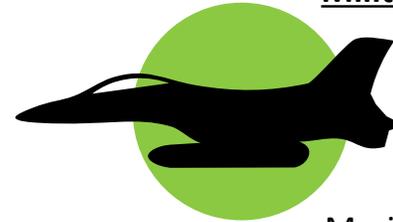
The **military** is the group of individuals who are trained to serve and protect the country.



Each person in the military has a **rank**, which represents the level of authority, status, and wages earned.



To **enlist** means to join the military.



Military branches are different parts of the military that have special roles and responsibilities. The branches are the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force.

Summary

Those interested in joining the military can **enlist** in one of the **branches of the U.S. military**: the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Space Force. In the **military**, you primarily learn skills through hands-on, formal training, and you can increase your **rank** by demonstrating knowledge and skills. Often, men and women who serve in the military receive financial aid through the GI Bill to attend a college or university.

What is a UNIVERSITY?



A **bachelor's degree** is a type of diploma that you earn from a university that proves you studied and know a lot about your major.

A **university** is a school you attend after high school, typically for four years, to study different subjects and work toward becoming an expert in a certain area.



A **campus** is where a university is located. On a campus, you will often find a cafeteria, library, buildings with classrooms, and dormitories, which are where students live.



A **major** is the main subject you study, or the area in which you plan to be an expert. For example, if you wanted to be a teacher, you would likely major in education.

Summary

A **university** is a larger school you can attend after high school that has complex programs that take years to complete. Students at a university often live on **campus**. You spend most of your time studying topics related to your **major**, and once you complete the necessary classes, you earn your **bachelor's degree**. It typically takes 4 years to earn a bachelor's degree, but it may take more or less time. After attending a university, some students go to work, and some decide to continue their education in graduate school, like medical school.

What is a COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A **community college** is a school you attend after high school, typically for two years, to study different subjects and begin the path of becoming an expert in a certain area.



An **associate's degree** is a diploma you can earn from a community college to prove that you successfully completed the required classes.



Concurrent enrollment, also known as dual enrollment, is when you take college courses during high school for both college and high school credit.



Transfer is when you switch schools, often from a college to a university.

Summary

A **community college** is a school you can attend after high school that is usually smaller and closer to home. You can even start early by taking **concurrent enrollment** classes during high school. In community college, you spend most of your time studying general topics, and once you have completed the necessary classes, you earn your **associate's degree**. It typically takes 2 years to earn an associate's degree, but it may take more or less time. After community college, some students go to work, and some decide to **transfer** to a university to continue their education for two more years.

What is a CAREER TECH?

A **career technology center**, also known as a career tech, is a school you can attend during or after high school to get hands-on training for a specific job. You may also hear these referred to as vocational schools, vo-techs, technical schools, or trade schools.



A **trade** is a skilled job, meaning it requires special training and often involves manual labor. For example, electricians, hair stylists, and veterinary technicians are trades that all need skilled job training.



An **apprenticeship** is an opportunity to get hands-on experience with guidance from a professional mentor who teaches important skills in a real work setting.



A **certificate** is what you earn for demonstrating your skills and abilities in a trade.

Summary

A **career tech** is a school where you primarily learn skills through hands-on training for a specific career. For example, if you choose to work on cars, you might practice removing dents from car doors, which is a skill best learned by doing. Once you demonstrate that you have mastered the skills you need for your **trade**, you earn your **certificate**. Some career tech programs include an **apprenticeship** that allows you to practice a trade in a work setting. It typically takes 6 months to 2 years to earn a certificate, depending on your desired career.