

ADULT DEGREE PROGRAMS

VALUE OF AN EDUCATION



CARDINAL STRITCH

UNIVERSITY

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THINKING OF FURTHERING YOUR EDUCATION?

According to the former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley, the top 10 jobs that will be in demand in 2010 did not exist in 2004. It is widely believed that human knowledge doubles every five years. While it is impossible for anyone to keep up with this rapid increase in knowledge growth, it is clear that each of us must keep up with the expanding knowledge in our area of expertise.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela

In an article in *Business Review*, C. Wayne Williams observes, "The emergence of adult learners as a major constituency has been one of the most profound changes in higher education during the past 25 years. More and more, Americans realize education is not solely for the young and that business makes gains in productivity when workers continually improve their skills."

To stay competitive in today's marketplace and advance in your career it is more important than ever to continue your education.

The education you gain through the process of earning a degree gives you the understanding and perspective that will propel you forward in your career.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

Many statistics support the fact that college graduates earn more during their professional work career than non-degree professionals. Most adults go back to school for one or more of the following reasons:

- Advancing your career
- Improving your job skills
- Gaining more knowledge in your field of work
- Fulfilling a personal lifetime goal
- Increasing your earning potential



ADULT DEGREE PROGRAMS

Adult degree programs are designed for busy working professionals. Working adults need the flexibility to balance a career, family and education. Campuses are conveniently located to maximize a student's commute time between work and school. Most classes are held one session a week with one additional learning team meeting. Generally, students take one course at a time for a period of five to six weeks. Some students complete their degree in as little as 18 months; however, most students take two years.

Some courses are offered in onground (face-to-face interaction), online (virtual classrooms), and blended (the onground and online formats are combined) formats.

Course Format – Courses average five to six weeks in length and are offered in a structured sequence with students completing one course at a time. This structure allows for complete focus on each topic.

Learning Teams – Students meet with their learning teams once per week. These meetings may be face-to-face or through the advancing technology on the Internet.

Adjunct Faculty – Instructors are professionals and work in the fields they teach. They bring real-world knowledge and skills to the classroom that students are able to apply immediately.

VALUES AND ETHICS IN EDUCATION

Values and ethics are central to the success of any organization or business. In a world where business and technology are rapidly changing, a values-based education is more important than ever.

Values can be described as **integrity, professionalism, caring, teamwork and stewardship**. Ethics is how individuals apply those values. Adult degree programs are developed so student can recognize the importance of ethical and moral judgments in the decision-making process.

“The most important thing about education is appetite...” Winston Churchill

As one of the largest recruiters of college graduates in the U.S., Enterprise Rent-A-Car is a prime example of the value of an education.

Enterprise Facts:

- \$10.1 billion annual revenue
- Enterprise hires over 8,000 college graduates a year
- 90% of the American population lives within 15 miles of an Enterprise location
- “50 Best Places to Launch a Career” in 2006, 2007 and 2008 – BusinessWeek

www.Enterprise.com

CAREERS AND JOB GROWTH

Degree Requirements for Industries of Future Growth

Projected for 2006-2016

Associate Degree

Veterinary technologists/technicians	Paralegals and legal assistants
Cardiovascular technologists/technicians	Registered nurses
Computer support specialists	Physical therapist assistant
Environmental science/protection technicians	Dental hygienists
Legal secretaries	

Bachelor's Degree

Network systems/data communications analysts	Accountants and auditors
Computer software engineers, applications	Personal financial advisors
Business operations specialists, admin & management	Financial analysts
Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors	Computer systems analysts
Elementary school teachers, except special education	

Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Plus Work Experience

Education administrators	Actuaries
Training and development specialists	Financial managers
Computer and information systems managers	Management analysts
Medical/health services managers	Public relations managers

Master's Degree

Mental health, substance abuse & family counselors	Clergy
Rehabilitation counselors	Physical therapists
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	Physician assistants

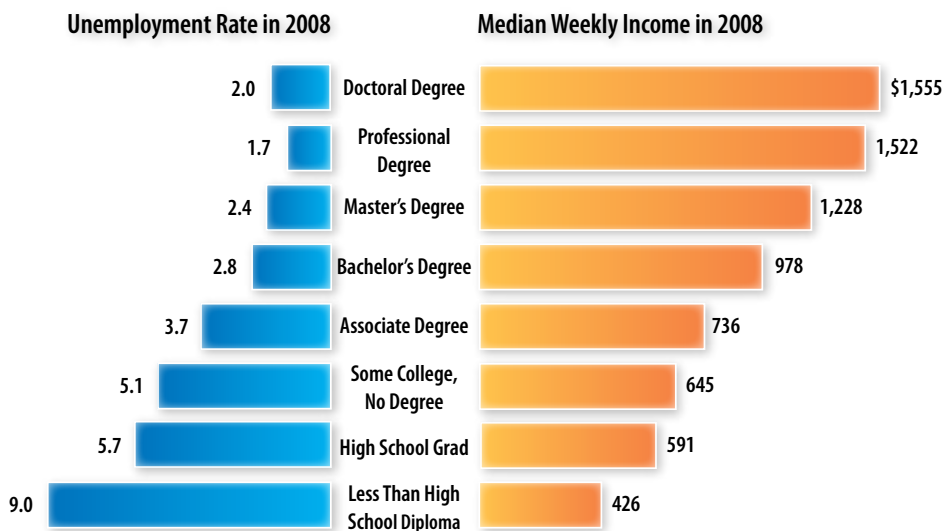
Doctoral Degree

Computer and information scientists, research	College teachers
Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists	Biochemists and biophysicists
Computer/information scientists, research	Medical scientists

EARNINGS VS. EDUCATION

According to the Bureau of Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, earning potential increases dramatically as the education level increases. In addition, the unemployment rate drops with more education.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistic's report, "College graduates age 25 and over earn nearly twice as much as workers who stopped with a high school diploma. College graduates have experienced growth in real (inflation-adjusted) earnings since 1979. In contrast, high school dropouts have seen their real earnings decline." Consider the following data:



Note: Earnings for year-round full-time workers 25 years old and older; unemployment rate for those 25 years old and older. Source: Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics; 2008.

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT

There are several ways to earn college credit, apart from the classroom. It is important to note that these alternatives do not add to your knowledge but simply validate the knowledge you have already accumulated on the job, or through training in your profession. These options are described below.

Portfolio – This approach allows a student to earn credit for prior learning in a specific area of concentration. This may include licensures and/or certifications as well as on-the-job training. For example, if a student’s work experience has been in the field of marketing, he or she would document his or her knowledge in marketing. The student would need to demonstrate a collegiate-level understanding of the principles and objectives outlined in the course description. Also, the student would need to demonstrate collegiate-level communication skills in preparing the documentation. A marketing instructor would then evaluate the documentation provided by the student and either accept or reject the request for credit. If the credit is granted, the college or university would then charge a transcription fee for including that course on your transcript.



CLEP – According to CollegeBoard.com, “The College-Level Examination Program® or CLEP provides students of any age with the opportunity to demonstrate college-level achievement through a program of computer-based exams in undergraduate college courses. There are 2,900 colleges that grant credit and/or advanced standing for CLEP exams.” If you pass the CLEP examination, the college or university would then charge a transcription fee for including that course on your transcript.

DANTES/DSST – The Defense Activities for Non Traditional Education Support (DANTES) / The DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST) program is an extensive series of examinations in subjects that are comparable to the final or end-of-course examinations in undergraduate courses. The American Council on Education (ACE) recommends three semester hours of credit per test. DANTES funds DSST testing for eligible service members and personnel at DANTES military test centers. These exams are not timed.

"Never underestimate that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation ensures the quality of the degree program and institution.

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognizes the following regional accrediting bodies for colleges and universities in the United States. The following bodies confer regional accreditation:

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges

RESOURCES

The Occupational Outlook Handbook & the Career Guide to Industries	www.bls.gov/oco
The U.S. Department of Education	www.ed.gov
Financial Aid	www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov
Assistance Programs	www.govbenefits.gov
FASFA	www.fasfa.ed.gov
College Degree Guide	www.collegedegreeguide.com
DANTES/DSST	www.dantes.doded.mil

FUNDING YOUR EDUCATION

There are many ways to fund your education today. Loans and grants are available through the federal government. Additionally, many businesses and corporations offer tuition assistance. Students must ask their human resource department for the specific company policy.

In an accelerated adult degree program you're considered a full-time student which may qualify you for federal financial-aid loans or grants. Most institutions participate in the following:

- Federal Stafford Loan Program
- Federal PLUS Loan
- Federal Pell Grant

A financial adviser will work with each student throughout the program to answer all his or her financial aid questions and assist him or her in the process. The first step in the financial aid process is to fill out the FASFA at www.fasfa.ed.gov.

We are committed to your success from start to finish. If you are serious about fulfilling your personal goals, advancing your career, improving your job skills or gaining more knowledge about your field, it's time to talk with an enrollment representative.

Call today to start on your way to a successful future!





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Brookfield and Kenosha: 262-797-6745, ext. 10.

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