

ALL-IN COLLEGE PLANNING

Trade, Tech, & Vocational Schools

Christopher Parsons & Wilton Paogofie
Owner & Founder



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRADE, TECH, VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Trade Schools

- Secondary school teaching the skilled trades
- Focus on hands-on careers that require a base level certification/specific number of on-the-job supervised hours
- Labor-focused industries: auto mechanics, electricians, carpenters, and medical assistants
- Some trade schools teach tech school-style courses and have many of the same programs, so the difference is not always obvious

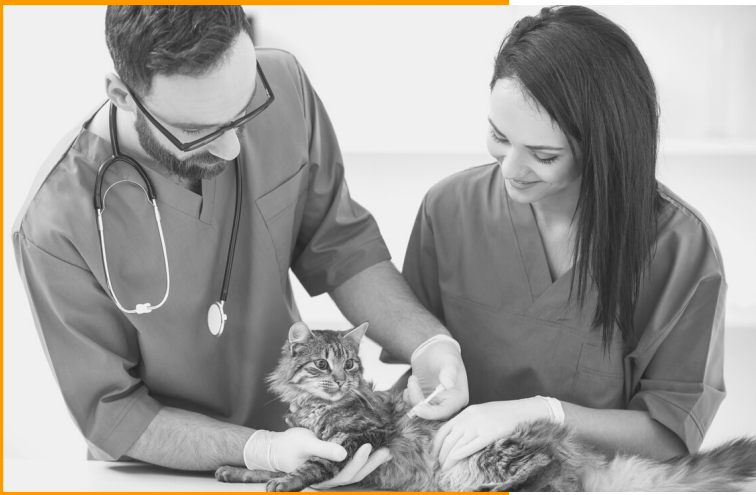
Common Trade School Jobs

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| • Carpenter | • Nursing Assistant |
| • Childcare Worker | • Plumber |
| • Cosmetologist | • Veterinarian Assistant |
| • Dental Assistant | • Welder |
| • Legal Assistant | |

Tech Schools

- Institution that offers associate's degrees and certifications necessary to enter technical job fields



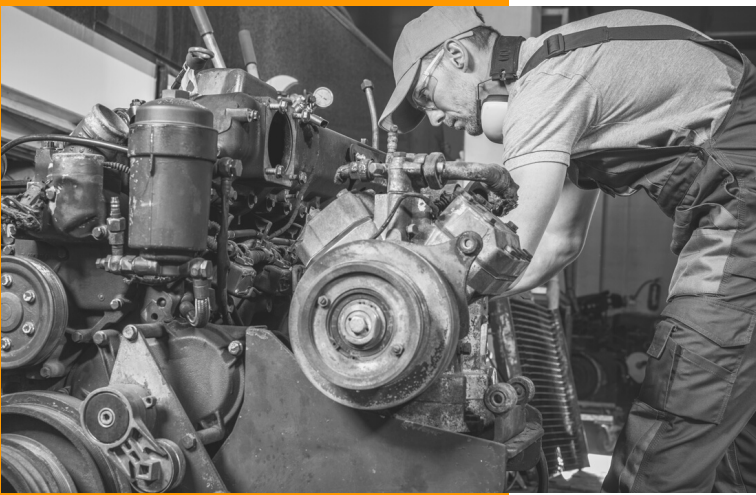


- Can often be completed in just 1-2 years and for half the typical College tuition
- Start learning applied knowledge and skills that directly translate to their chosen career field
- May still need to complete a training program, apprentice program, or an entry-level position
- Some associate's degrees and technical certifications allow a graduate to begin working immediately
- Many community colleges offer trade school programs



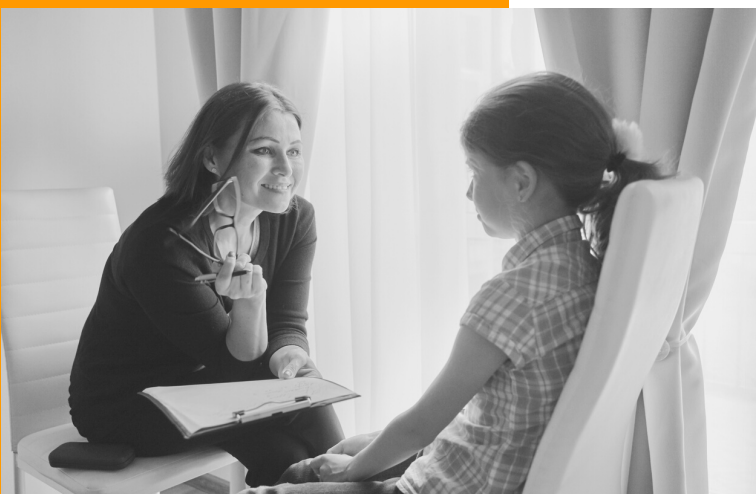
Common Programs at Technical Colleges

- Automotive Maintenance Technology
- Computer Programming
- Dental Hygiene
- Diesel Technology
- Graphic Design
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technology
- Information Technology
- Nursing



Vocational Schools

- An umbrella term for either trade or tech schools
- Prepare students for immediate entry into their field
- Some four-year undergraduate institutions offer vocational degree programs
- U.S. Department of Education offers robust vocational training programs to public high school students who might be looking to rapidly enter a career after graduation
- Financial Aid may be available





Tech School vs. Trade School vs. Vocational School

- Tech schools may offer plenty of trade programs and vice versa
- Terms can be (and are often) used interchangeably
- All are job training at a career-focused learning institution

Trade Schools vs College Programs

- College costs are about three times that of trade schools
- Typically require student loans that an average borrower takes 20 years to pay
- Most Trade schools guarantee career placement
- Trade school programs focus on just one skill

*<https://cetweb.edu/how-long-do-most-trade-schools-last/>

DID YOU FIND THIS HELPFUL?

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info@allincollegeplanning.org

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There is no doubt that we are living through crazy times, but colleges are looking for students who can find new and resilient ways to rise above the madness. It is

only by embracing these new tactics that you will be able to stop the cycle of insanity and achieve the positive outcome you desire.