



Check your understanding of different types of colleges, universities, and degrees using the matching activity below. This activity will help you better understand your options after high school.

Definition:

1. ____ 4-year degree
2. ____ This type of school focuses on specialized career training.
3. ____ What grade do you have to be in to enroll in Oklahoma's Promise?
4. ____ You are considered an expert once you've earned this highest level of degree.
5. ____ Type of college that offers a variety of degrees in the social sciences, humanities, and sciences.
6. ____ College campus that offers a variety of degrees, is typically more affordable than private options, and focuses on research in a variety of subject areas.
7. ____ An undergraduate degree that you can earn in as little as two years.
8. ____ A scholarship for Oklahoma students that can help cover the cost of college tuition.
9. ____ A graduate-level degree that usually takes 2 years to complete. Completing a bachelor's degree is usually required before starting this degree program.
10. ____ Education after high school, such as college or career tech.
11. ____ An affordable college that offers certificates and associate degrees, but not any higher-level degrees.
12. ____ Awarded after completing a training program at a technical or vocational center.
13. ____ This type of college tends to cost more than public regional colleges and universities, but typically have very small class sizes and often offer many private scholarships.
14. ____ Smaller campus size and tend to be more affordable than research universities; however, there are typically fewer degree options to choose from.

Terms:

- A. Certificate
- B. Associate Degree
- C. Bachelor's Degree
- D. Master's Degree
- E. Doctorate
- F. Technology Center
- G. Regional University
- H. Research University
- I. Community/Jr College
- J. Private College/University
- K. Liberal Arts College
- L. Oklahoma's Promise
- M. 8th, 9th, or 10th grade
- N. Postsecondary Ed.

1-C 2-F 3-M 4-E 5-K 6-H 7-B 8-L 9-D 0-N 11-I 12-A 13-J 14-G

Answer Key:

Career & College Knowledge: Helpful Information

Understanding the different types of postsecondary education options available to you will help you make better-informed decisions about your plans after high school. Visiting college campuses can help you become college-ready, not only by providing a better understanding of the academic skills needed but also by allowing you to experience what a college campus looks and feels like. Not all college campuses are the same, so it is important to visit a variety to help you find the best place for you. Before your next in-person or virtual campus visit, it may be a good idea to know a little more about the different types of campuses and degree types. You will find a list below of helpful terms and definitions.

Postsecondary Education Options: Postsecondary education (PSE) refers to education after high school. This could include college or career tech/vo-tech.

Technology Center: Focuses on specialized career training that prepares students for specific careers.

Types of Colleges and Universities:

- **Community/Junior College:** Two-year colleges that offer certificates and associate degrees. These colleges are a more affordable option compared to universities. Students who graduate with an associate degree can transfer to a public or private university to complete coursework for a bachelor's degree.
- **Private College/University:** Offers a variety of degrees that students can choose from. Private colleges tend to cost more than public colleges and universities.
- **Regional:** Public colleges with a smaller campus size and tend to be more affordable than research universities; however, there are typically fewer degree options to choose from than larger universities.
- **Liberal Arts College:** Offers a variety of degrees in the social sciences, humanities, and sciences. This type of college is often also private.
- **Research:** Public and private universities that have research as one of its main focuses. Research includes studies or projects conducted in specific subject areas, such as science.

Below you will find definitions of the different types of degrees or certificates you can earn after high school. Knowing these terms will help you understand the education needed and the type of college to attend to obtain the career you want.

Degree Types:

- **Certificates:** Awarded after completing a training program at a technical or vocational center. The certificate is required to legally be able to work in the profession for which the training was received.
- **Associate Degree:** An undergraduate degree that you can earn after about two years from a junior or community college.
- **Bachelor's Degree:** An undergraduate degree that you can earn after about four years from a college or university.
- **Master's Degree:** A graduate-level degree that allows you to focus on and master a specific subject area. It takes, on average, two years to complete. You usually must have completed coursework on the bachelor's degree level prior to being accepted into a master's program.
- **Doctoral Degree:** The highest level of degree that you can earn. You are considered an expert in your field of study. On average, it takes an additional four to eight years to complete this graduate level of study.

Oklahoma's Promise: Oklahoma's Promise is a scholarship for Oklahoma students that can help cover the cost of college tuition. Requirements:

- Must be an Oklahoma resident enrolled in the 8th, 9th, or 10th grade
- Parents' federal-adjusted gross income must not exceed \$55,000 per year (there are special income provisions for some situations)
- Complete the Oklahoma's Promise application at www.okhighered.org/okpromise/.