

Post-Secondary Options

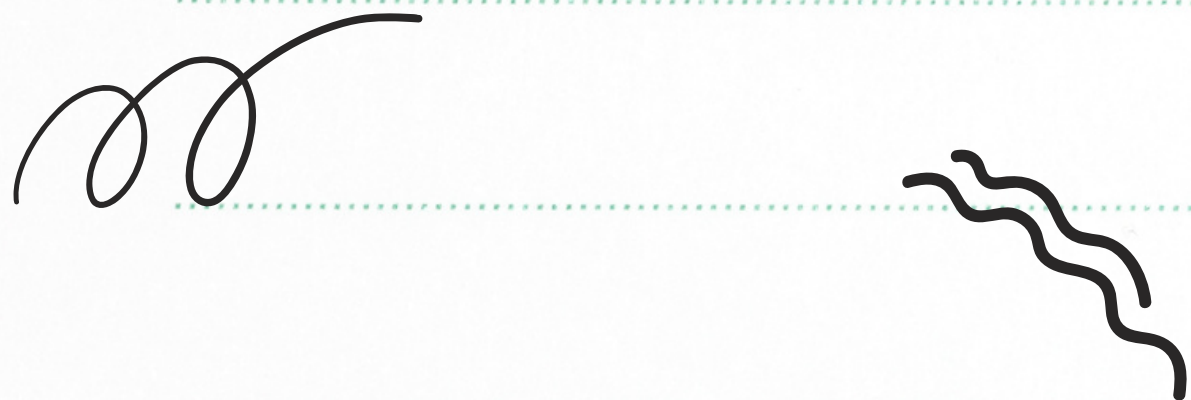
Alternatives to 4-year Colleges

WA Counseling

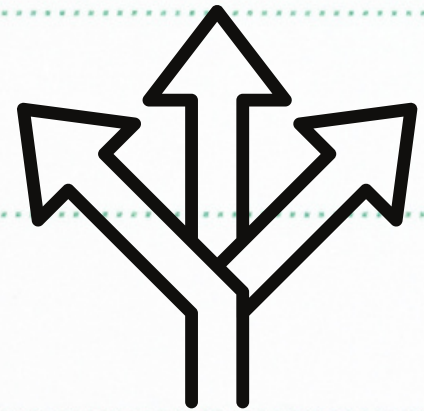

Today's Agenda



- Options for Life after WA
- Next Steps
- Choose a Path(s) to Explore



Alternatives to 4-year Colleges



Community College

Trades / Technical Programs

Employment

Military

GAP Year

Volunteer

Post-Graduate Year

Community College

Community College Options

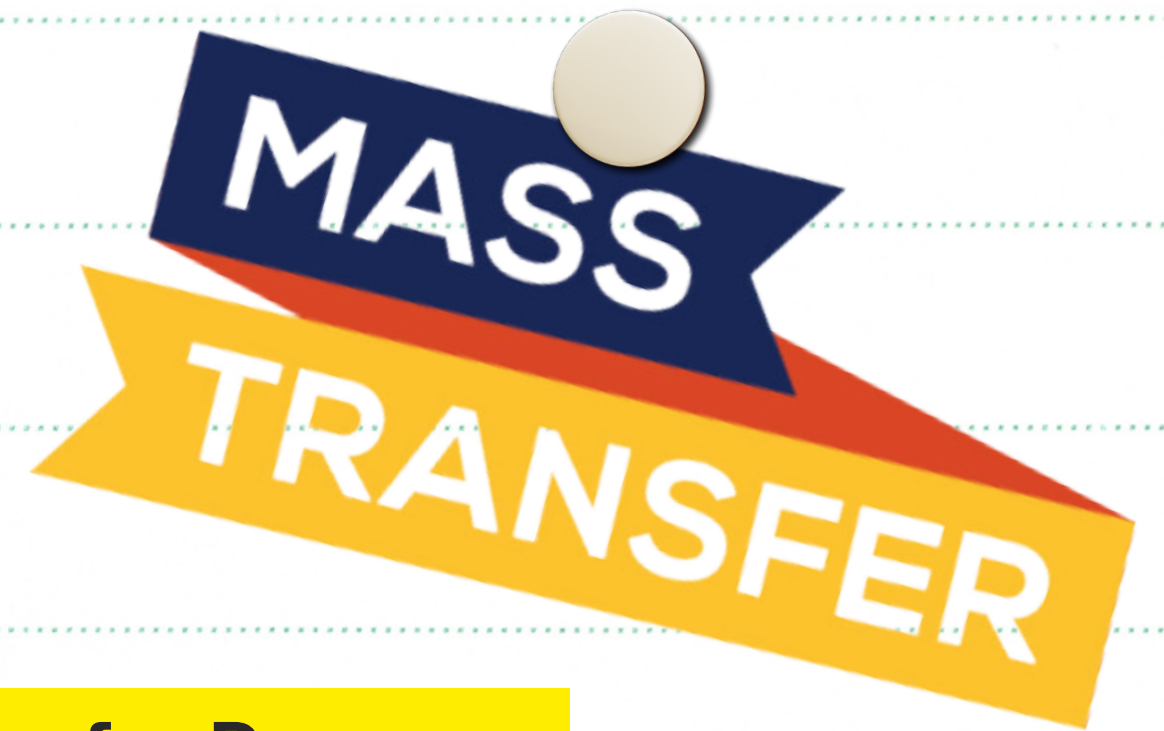
Earn a 2-year associate degree, transfer to a 4-year college, or earn short-term credentials to jump directly into the workforce.

Direct Admission

Admission with high school diploma (certain programs have additional requirements)

Benefits

Save money, flexible schedule, gradual transition to college life



Mass Transfer Program

Program enables students to transfer to a four year State University or UMASS School. This is one of the best ways to make college more affordable!

Fast Facts

Massachusetts has 15 Community Colleges

- MA Community Colleges represent 38% of the students in the Massachusetts public higher education system.

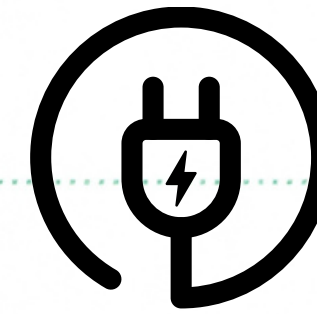
Trades / Technical Programs

Overview

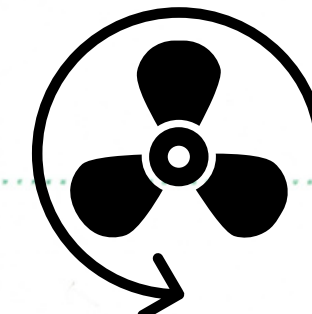
Trade/vocational schools are a great option for people looking to break into the workforce quickly.

Programs can vary in length from a few months to two-years.

Apprenticeships in skilled trades include training through coursework and work on-the-job.



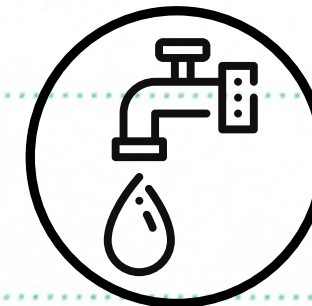
Electrician



HVAC Tech



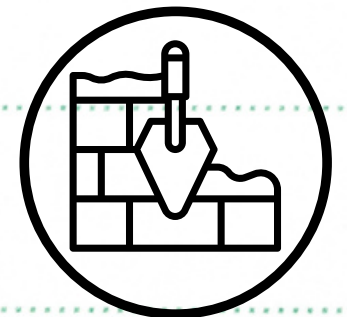
Auto Tech



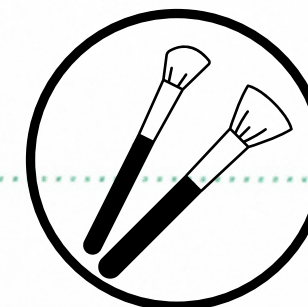
Plumber



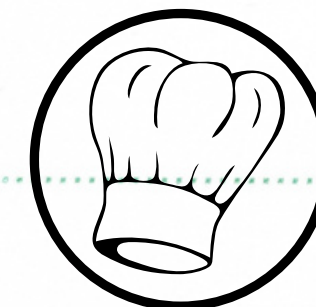
Carpenter



Masonry



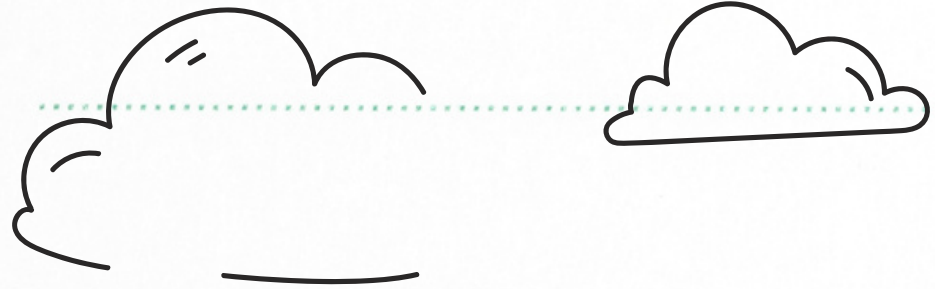
Cosmetology



Culinary
Arts



Medical /
Dental Assistant



Employment

right after high-school

IMPORTANT

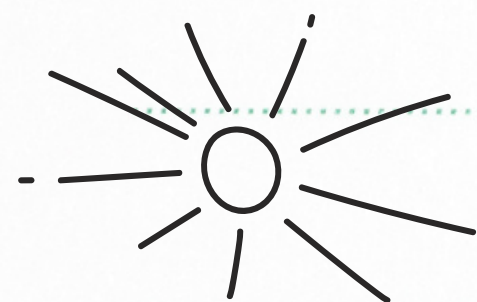


Overview and Benefits

Working right after high-school is a great path for those who have an immediate financial need to support themselves or their families. Save up and attend a college or vocational school when you're ready.



Some careers may not require formal training or a college degree, but it's important to research your career goals to understand the requirements.



Military



ENLIST

Direct Entrance

Physical Exam

ASVAB Exam

Scheduled in early Jan. at WA
If you missed it - you can take it
at Boston MEPS
(call to schedule)

ACADEMIES

Most require
Congressional
nominations

4-year degree

Competitive

ROTC

Reserve Officers
Training Corps

College program

Scholarship

Commit to serve



Gap Year



Overview

Gap year/alternative year could include a formal program, traveling or an internship experience.

Defer College Acceptance

Some students may request to defer their admissions to a college for one semester or one year, to explore other avenues.

Benefits

Gap year can allow you to prepare for college and teach valuable life skills.

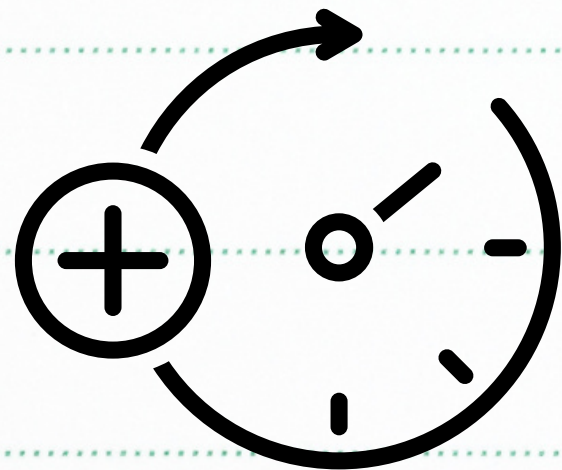


Volunteer & Service Learning Experiences

- Make an impact in your community while learning valuable skills
- Most service-learning programs provide members with money, health care benefits, child care assistance, training, and more.
*Some programs provide housing.
- Examples:
 - CityYear, AmeriCorps, Teach for America



Post- Graduate Year



Overview & Benefits

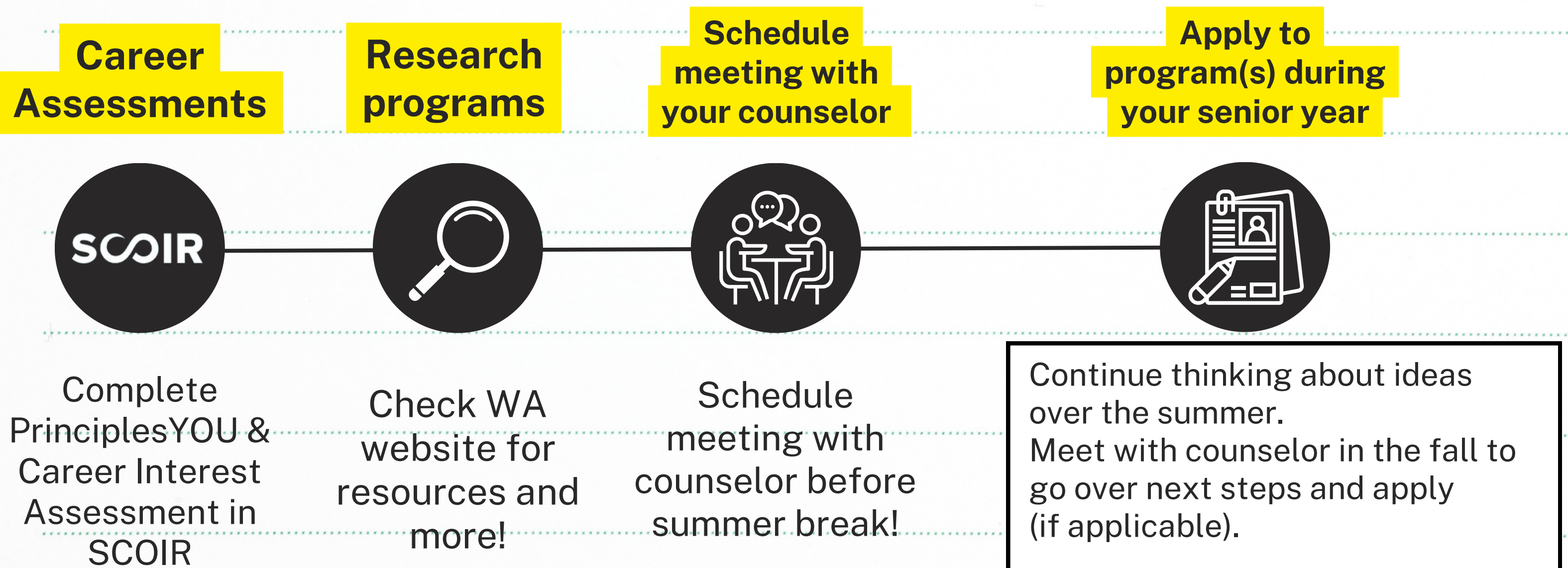
A postgraduate (or 'PG') year is a great opportunity for students to build their skills, improve their academic portfolio, and prepare for college.

PG Year Versus Gap Year

A post-graduate year is more academic and is typically offered at a private school with other students versus a Gap year is a break after graduating from high school to explore a personally rewarding activity.

So now what?

Here are steps to take to help you narrow down your options!



Choose a Path(s) to Explore

Alternatives to 4-Year Colleges

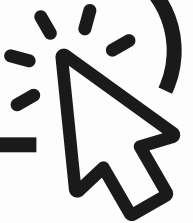
The
Military

CLICK HERE



Trade
Schools

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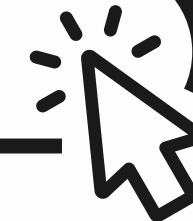
Entering
the
Workforce

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Apprenticeships
&
Internships

CLICK HERE



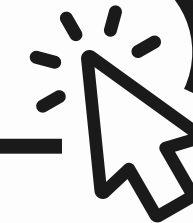
Associate
Degrees

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Your
Productive
Gap Year

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**Note that this is not a comprehensive list of all college alternative options.*