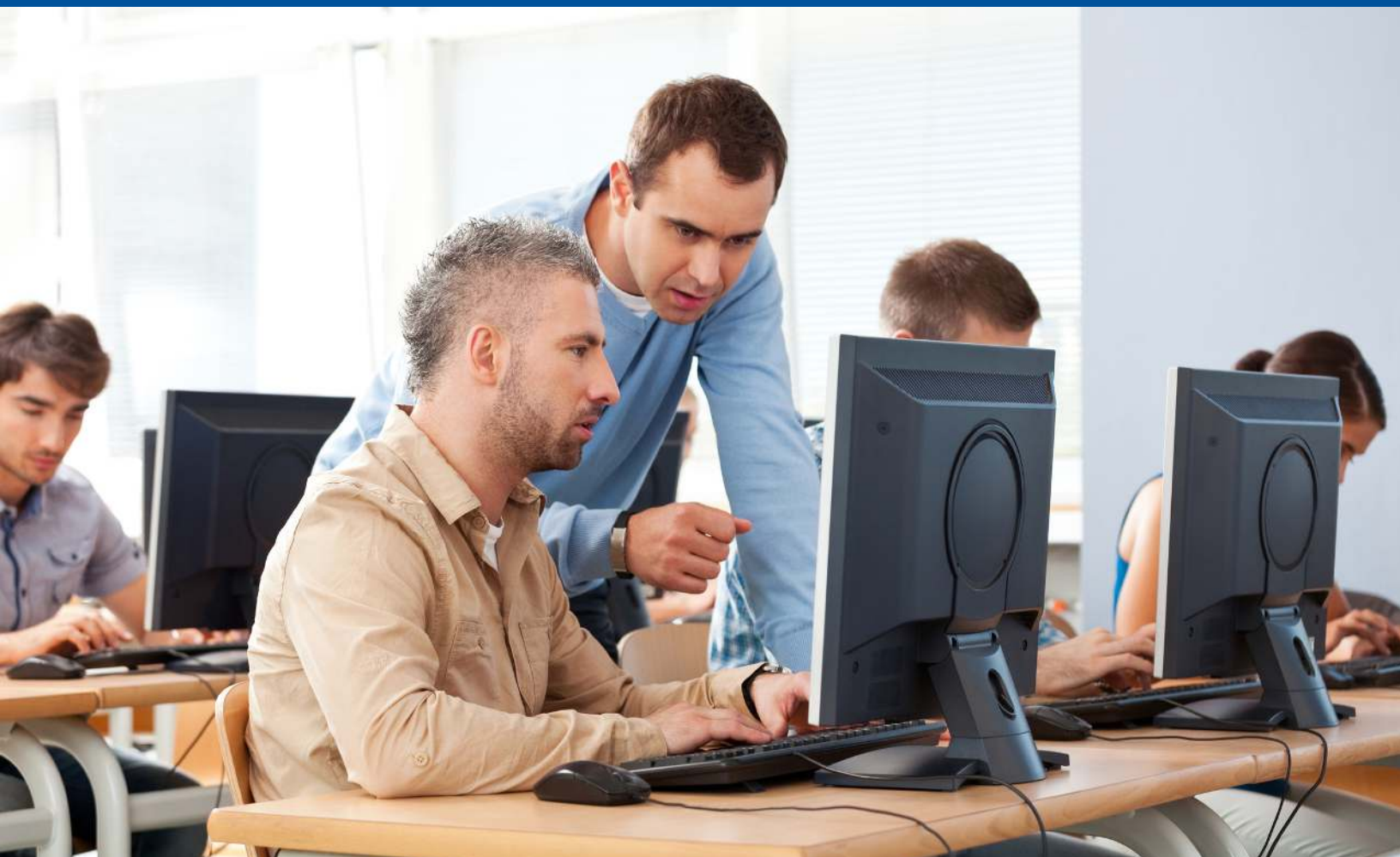




Education + Vocational Workbook

Do you want to pursue your education or enroll in a training program,
but not sure where to start?

Use this workbook as a guide to map out your education plan.

PART 1: CHOOSE YOUR PATH

Below are different types and levels of education. Check the path that applies to you.

☐ **High School Diploma or Equivalency**

A diploma is often a minimum requirement for most jobs, schools, and training programs. If you were unable to finish high school, it's recommended you take a high school equivalency exam, like a GED, to make you eligible for continuing education. Visit our [High School Equivalency Exams](#) page for the different options available in your area.

☐ Career Technical Education (CTE)

Career-focused trade and vocational programs are a great option if you have a specific professional goal in mind. Most programs take under two years to complete and provide you with a license or certification for a specific industry.

☐ College Degree

Most colleges are two- to four-years and may be a great path to take if you have broader career goals and want to learn a variety of general skills. If you are looking for a job that requires an associate or bachelor's degree, this option may be best for you.

Notes

PART 2: DEVELOP A PLAN

Based on the path you have chosen, use the appropriate chart on pages 3-5 to help guide you.

Path 1: High School Diploma or Equivalency

 Visit the [High School Equivalency](#) page to help you answer the questions below.

	GED®	HiSET®	TASC®
Which exam(s) are you eligible for based on your location?			
How is the test given—on a computer or on paper?			
What are the costs associated with the exam?			
How many hours a week can you commit to exam preparation?			
Does the test offer disability accommodations, if needed?			
Where do you plan to study?			

 Find a place that is quiet and offers resources to help you prepare. Visit the [Adult Education Centers](#) page to find one in your area.

Next, go to section 4 on page 7 to complete your goals.

Path 2: Career Technical Education (CTE)

List up to three vocations/trades you are interested in pursuing. Visit the [Vocations + Trades](#) and the [Find a Trade School](#) pages if you need help answering the questions below.



If you need assistance in identifying a career, take the career assessments outlined on page 6.

	Vocation/Trade 1	Vocation/Trade 2	Vocation/Trade 3
What vocation/trade are you interested in pursuing?			
What are the job requirements? Include education, degrees, certificates, or licenses, and skills required.			
What skills do you have that you can apply?			
What training programs are available?			
Is the program full-time or part-time?			
How long will it take you to finish the training program?			
Is the program offered online or in-person? If in person, how will you commute?			
What is the cost of the program?			
What financial aid options are available?			



Visit the [Financial Aid](#) page to learn about the different options and eligibility requirements.

Next, go to section 4 on page 7 to complete your goals.

Path 3: College Degree

Find three schools that best match your interests, and gather more information for each prospective school. Use the links provided on the [Post-Secondary Education](#) page if you need help locating a school.

	School 1	School 2	School 3
Name of school:			
What degree are you interested in pursuing?			
What are the admissions requirements?			
Is the program offered online or in-person? If in-person, how will you commute?			
How long will it take to finish your degree? Include the number of credits/ hours needed to calculate based on whether you plan to attend part-time or full-time.			
Is the school accredited?			
What financial aid options are available?			



Visit the [Financial Aid](#) page to learn about the different options and eligibility requirements.

Next, go to section 4 on page 7 to complete your goals.

PART 3: CAREER ASSESSMENTS

Visit the [Career Assessments](#) page to complete the assessments, and record your results below.

Interest Assessment

List five jobs from your results that you would be interested in pursuing.

Career	Outlook	Hourly Wages	Education
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Skills Matcher Assessment

List five careers from your results that you would be interested in pursuing.

Career	Outlook	Annual Wages	Education
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Work Values Matcher Assessment

List the six values provided in your results from most to least important and indicate the jobs/careers in which you are interested.

Value	Jobs/Careers that Match Values
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

PART 4: ESTABLISH GOALS

Now that you have chosen an educational path and developed a plan, set some short- and long-term goals to measure your progress. Be SMART about setting your goals (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-based).

My Short-Term Educational Goals

Be realistic with what you can accomplish in the next year.

I will do this action:	By this date:	I will use these resources to help me:	I will reward myself for accomplishing my goal by:
Example: Register for GED	1/1/2022	Local library and free exam study guide	Frame my diploma
1.			
2.			
3.			

My Long-Term Educational Goals

These may take several years to accomplish.

I will do this action:	By this date:	I will use these resources to help me:	I will reward myself for accomplishing my goal by:
Example: Enroll in trade school for construction	2/15/2023	Local union	Celebrate with a loved one
1.			
2.			
3.			

How do you think you will feel once you've accomplished your educational goals?