

A MATTER OF DEGREES

Students may know how to apply and enroll in college, but they probably need more information about the various types of degree programs offered. This lesson will provide them with a resource that explains the differences between an Associate's degree, Bachelor's, Master's and more advanced degree options.



An **associate's degree** is earned in two years or less and may be earned at community, junior, or technical colleges. Associate's degrees will include basic courses, such as math and English, as well as classes related to your particular career choice. You may use courses completed through the community college to transfer to a four-year institution. Possible careers that require this degree are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



A **bachelor's degree** is usually a four-year program of undergraduate courses. To earn this degree, you must take general studies classes

like math and English, as well as a certain number of hours in your major field of study. You may begin with transfer credit from Advanced Placement, CLEP, or community college courses. There are several different types of bachelor's degree programs, and the type you earn will depend on the major you choose. Possible careers that require this degree are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

A **master's degree** follows a bachelor's degree and will usually take at least two additional years to complete.

Master's degrees are very focused and are called "master's" because it means that you have mastered a particular area of study. You must complete undergraduate courses and take a graduate admissions exam. The most common master's degrees are Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Science (M.S.), and Master of Education (M.Ed.). Certain careers require this degree, such as:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Even more advanced degrees, such as **doctoral and professional degrees** in medicine, law, education, arts, or sciences, may also be obtained. A doctoral, or Ph.D. program, often follows a master's degree. Other professional programs, including a law degree, may be obtained after completion of a bachelor's degree. These graduate degrees take from three to five additional years to complete. These are some of the careers that require this degree:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

OWN IT!

I am hoping to pursue a(n) _____ (Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, Professional/ Doctoral) degree in _____. I can take the following courses now to prepare for that degree: _____
