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Entering the workforce

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- What is the workforce?

A common misconception about entering the workforce straight out of high school, is that you are not supposed to go to college, or train for long periods of time. This however, can be labeled as false information. Joining the workforce means having a plan, and sticking to it. If you decide to join the workforce, this means you have already started working on the path to get to your career. For example, if you decide you would like to be a surgeon, you should have taken all the courses necessary in order to prepare for medical school, while you are finishing your first four years of college.

- Electrician

An electrician does almost everything to bring electrical power to citizens. They wire new homes, add outlets and circuit breakers and also repair existing electrical systems. It doesn't take long to become certified to become an electrician, most certificates can be earned in a matter of months, but you will have to complete up to 4 years of apprenticeship and paid on the job training with classroom instruction. You'll need a few physical skills in order to be able to qualify for this job, including hand eye coordination, physical fitness, endurance and accurate vision in order to handle the tools and machinery on construction sites. Although you only need a high school diploma or equivalent to be able to qualify for trade schools, you will also need to meet state license requirements. This includes passing a test on theory, the national electrical code, and local or regional building codes. Most qualified workers are employed by electrical contractors after finishing their training periods. You could also work in manufacturing, construction, or power generation and distribution.

- electrical industry training - warren, Michigan

- Law

A lawyer is a person who holds a license that allows them to practice law in their respective state. Lawyers work both publicly and privately in order to represent their clients and help them understand the law. They can prepare legal documents, hold depositions, interview witnesses, argue in court, and conduct trials. In order to become a lawyer you have to have completed your undergraduate degree, pass the LSAT (the Law School Admissions Test), obtain a Juris Doctor law degree (JD, a professional degree in law), pass the MPRE (multistate professional responsibility examination, which is used to measure one's knowledge and understanding of the rules related to the professional conduct of lawyers), and pass the bar exam (which is an exam intended to determine if the examinee is qualified to practice law in their respective state).

- Chef

Unless you are looking to become a professional chef, schooling is not required. Most employers require a high school diploma or GED, but it is also possible to start out with neither. Although you don't need a formal education to start out this career, many employers find skills such as culinary school valuable. These programs are offered at community or vocational colleges, and allow you to learn everything you need to know about food safety, and many skills that are difficult to come by with only on the job training. If you choose to take this route, the typical degree can be earned in two years, but some programs can be taken for up to 4 years. Becoming a chef takes dedication. You will most likely be working from open to close, which can typically be 10-14 hours a day with little to no breaks. You will most likely be unable to take holidays and weekends off, and will have to keep a calm and collected mind (especially during dinner rush). Unless you're working as a head or executive chef, or are a line cook at a smaller establishment schedules are not very flexible and hourly wages are typically low.

Medical field

- physician

In order to become a physician, you must first obtain a bachelor's degree. While a specific major is not required to get into medical school, all applicants must have completed undergraduate courses in the following classes; biology, physics, chemistry, and mathematics. Once you've completed your bachelor's, you will have to take the MCAT (medical college admissions test). Med school programs generally last about 4 years. While training, you will spend a majority of your first 2 years in the classroom and laboratory, and the last two will allow you to work directly with patients under supervision. After graduating from med school you will take one year of internship, before starting your residency. These programs give aspiring doctors the opportunity to work directly with patients and begin their practice in their specialty area of medicine. Residency can last anywhere from 3 to 7 years.

- nurse

Registered nurses (RN's) are typically required to obtain an associates degree, but bachelor's in nursing are also available. Courses in anatomy, nursing, nutrition, chemistry, microbiology, etc. are required. Most associate's degrees in nursing generally last from 2-3 years. After completing your program you will be required to apply for a nursing license, and take the NCLEX, (national council licensure examination)

Public services

- Garbage man

What a garbage man does for a living is no secret. As we all see they make their weekly stops at our houses and pick up and dispose our trash. But imagine what our community would look like without a wasteman. It would be a very unsanitary and disgusting environment. It is human nature to always have waste and over time waste has been projected to only increase. That's why this occupation is expected to increase by 13% by 2026. The median salary is about \$35,000 a year. No education is needed but some departments may ask for a highschool diploma or a ged. You are trained on the job as you go and because of some of the dangers you have to be 18 for this job. A commercial drivers license is needed if you want to drive the truck. You may also want to have upper body strength and high tolerance for bad odors to be successful at the job.

- Police Officer

A police officer's duty is to enforce laws, and protect people and property. Being an officer is a meaningful way to protect your community. The basic requirements to becoming an officer are, being a US citizen, have a valid driver's license, and be at least 18/21 years old (age varies depending on department policy). In order to become an officer, you must have a clean criminal record, any felony will disqualify you from this profession. Although higher level education is not required, more and more employers are looking for some type of degree when hiring. It is also needed for advanced law enforcement positions, such as the FBI or the US fish and wildlife service. Before being admitted into the police academy, you will be required to receive a passing score on an entrance exam. Some tests might include Asset, Compass, and Law Enforcement examination (LEE). Once these tests are passed, you will have to get into the police academy, where training can last up to 6 months.