

Trade / Technical School Checklist / Questionnaire

Questions you should ask prior to choosing a trade school...

Trade / Technical schools train students to become skilled professionals in their trades. Students will leave their programs as masters of a trade, having gained experience with the necessary tools and newest technologies to perform well in their fields. Technical colleges offer many programs that only take nine months to two years to complete. They focus on hands-on training to prepare students for rapid entry into the workforce.

1. What do you want to do?
2. Is the school you are considering accredited and licensed?
3. Is there a local community college that offers a similar trade program you are considering for cheaper?
4. What are the requirements for admission?
5. What does it take to pass the program?
6. Is there hands-on experience included in the program?
7. How long is the trade program you are considering?
8. Will your coursework transfer to another school?
9. Does the school have a job placement program?
10. What percentage of people who enroll end up completing the program?
11. Of those who don't complete the program, how many transfer to another school and how many simply withdraw?
12. Of the people that complete the program, what percentage get jobs in the field?
13. What is the average wage graduates earn in their first job after graduating?
14. Are the school's facilities sufficient? Are they up-to-date?
15. How much does the program cost?
16. Are there additional costs to getting enrolled in the trade program?
17. What financial aid options are available to you?
18. What types of scholarship opportunities exist?
19. Have students filed complaints against the school?

** Sources: <http://studentcaffe.com/>
<http://thetradeschool.org/faq/>