

RESULTS

A quality education results in a good job and gives you lifelong career opportunities. The school you choose should deliver great outcomes for students and be able to back up its claims with solid data.

- ✓ **How long will it take to complete the program, and how many students graduate?**
Some programs are four years, others are two years and some take just a year to complete, based on the career you're interested in and the training it requires. Graduation rates can tell you a lot about the quality of the program so look for schools that have a long track record of helping students stay in school and graduate.
- ✓ **Is there a strong demand for the program's graduates and what do graduates typically earn?**
Ask the school for information and statistics about demand for its graduates, average entry-level salaries and earning potential. Be sure the information they give you is from a reliable source, like the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- ✓ **Do the organizations I want to work for hire the school's graduates?**
The best programs have good relationships with employers, and are a respected and relied on source of great employees. Talk with employers in your field, and find out which schools produce the best graduates.
- ✓ **How many graduates are hired in their chosen field?**
Ask the school how many graduates are hired in the field they study within a year of graduating. Do your own research on various schools' employment rates.
- ✓ **Will I get the degrees, licenses or certifications I need to go to work?**
Learn what's required of employees in your field of interest, and make sure the schools you're considering can give you the right qualifications.

CHECKLIST:

As you research schools, be sure to ask and answer the questions below:

- How many of the school's graduates are hired in the field they study?
- Does the school have relationships with employers in the industry where I want to work?
- Do employers offer tuition reimbursement and/or incentive programs to the school's graduates?
- Do employers and industry partners invest in keeping the school's programs, facilities and technology up-to-date?
- Do the instructors have real-world experience in the areas they teach?
- Does the school teach the way I like to learn?
- Is the program accredited?
- What are the school's graduation and employment rates?
- What is the total cost of tuition and all fees?
- Does the school offer financial aid and scholarships?
- Will I be able to pay back any student loans?
- Does the school offer housing or housing services?

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Universal Technical Institute



Before You Enroll Checklist

Whether you want a four-year degree, or are looking at community college or a trade and technical career program, it's important to understand your options and what each offers so you can find the school that's right for you.

QUALITY EDUCATION

You want to be the best at what you do. Look for a school that's known for being the best at what they do.

✓ Does the school offer quality programs that match my areas of interest?

Whether or not you have a specific career in mind, think about your interests, your passions and what makes you happy. Then, research schools and professionals in the fields you're interested in to find out which schools are respected by organizations that hire their graduates.

✓ How will the program prepare me to be successful in a career that makes me happy?

Quality programs give students the knowledge, skills and professional qualities employers look for. Find out which schools offer the type of career training you need to succeed.

✓ Does the school invest in keeping its programs, facilities and technology relevant and up-to-date?

Take time to visit the campuses of schools you're interested in. Look for a program that keeps pace with technology and can give you knowledge and experience that matches what's happening in the real world.

✓ Do the program and its instructors teach the way I learn best and are the instructors knowledgeable?

Some people like to learn from lectures and textbooks while others are more hands-on and learn by doing. Find a program that matches your style and has quality instructors who are experts in their field. Instructors should have real world experience in the subjects they teach.

✓ Does the school put its students first?

Look for a program that judges its success by the success of its students and is known for being open, honest and ethical about student outcomes.

✓ Is the program accredited?

Quality programs are accredited. Ask the school about its accreditations and where they come from.



PAYING FOR SCHOOL

When it comes to tuition, cheaper isn't always better, and more expensive doesn't necessarily guarantee a quality education. Look for a program that gives you good value for your money – and a return on your investment – by helping you achieve your dreams.

✓ What will it cost to get a degree, license or certificate that serves me well?

Every program is different. Look for programs that provide a quality education, strong graduation rates and a good record of helping graduates find jobs. Make sure you get an estimate of the total cost of your education, including tuition, books and fees to compare programs and find the best value.

✓ What kind of financial aid does the school provide?

Most schools make student loans available, and many offer scholarships, programs that are paid for by employers and tuition reimbursement plans. Look for a program that's committed to making education accessible and affordable.

✓ How much will I need to borrow to pay for school and will I be able to pay back my student loans?

Quality programs lead to careers that pay well. Find out how your loan repayment schedule compares to earning potential in your chosen field.

✓ Are scholarships available?

Ask about scholarships, tuition assistance and employer reimbursement and other support to help you afford an education.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Great schools are committed to giving students the support they need to succeed in school and in careers they love.

✓ What kind of student support does the school provide?

Good programs support students in applying for school, enrolling, filling out financial aid forms and getting off to a strong start when school begins. Many schools also offer tutoring programs, counseling and other services. Look for a program that offers the kind of support you will need.

✓ What type of housing is available?

Find a program that offers housing on campus or has services that help students find good, affordable places to live near the campus.

✓ Are internships and part-time jobs available?

Find out if the school helps students find part-time jobs and internships while they are studying, so you can earn while you learn, and get real-world experience.

✓ Once I graduate, will the school help me find a job in my field of study?

Look for a school that offers quality employment services, including résumé building, interview training and connecting graduates to employers. The best programs have strong relationships with the industries they serve, so they know what employers are looking for and can help students get hired.

