

GRADUATE SCHOOL &/OR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Presented by the Academic Advising Center

AGENDA

- Job vs Career
- Pros & Cons
- Graduate School
- Job Preparation



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

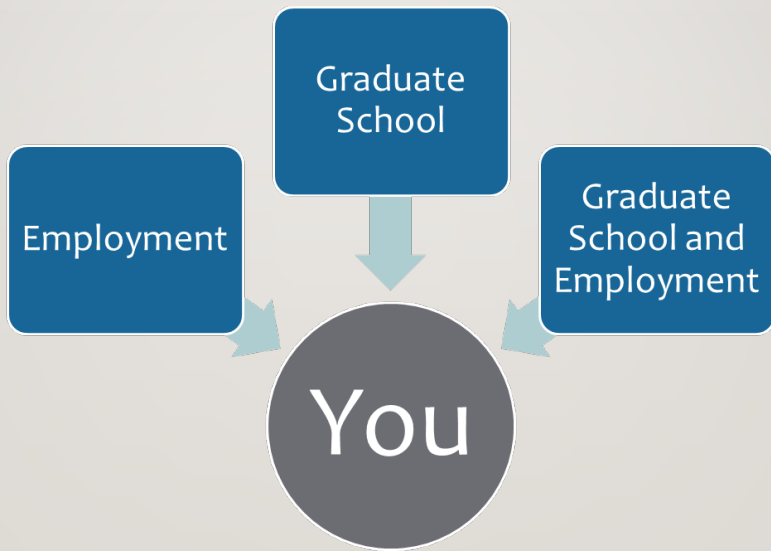
- Identify pros and cons of earning a graduate degree before working full-time
- Describe pros and cons of working full-time before earning a graduate degree
- List resources in researching graduate school programs or full-time work.

AUDIENCE POLL

How many of you...

- a) Want to go to graduate school full-time?
- b) Want to begin work right after graduation?
- c) Want to work full-time and go to graduate part-time?
- d) Want to work part-time and go to graduate school full-time?
- e) Not sure?

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?



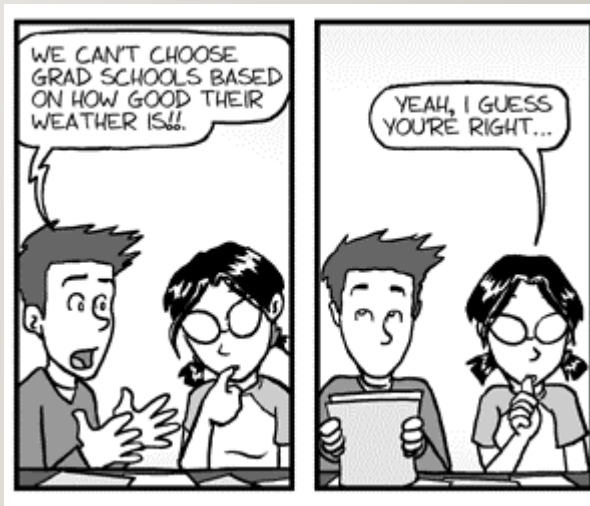
WHY GRADUATE SCHOOL?



WHY GRADUATE SCHOOL?

The following is a list of reasons why graduate school might be ideal or potentially beneficial:

- Career Goal
- Compensation
- Staying Marketable



CAREER GOAL

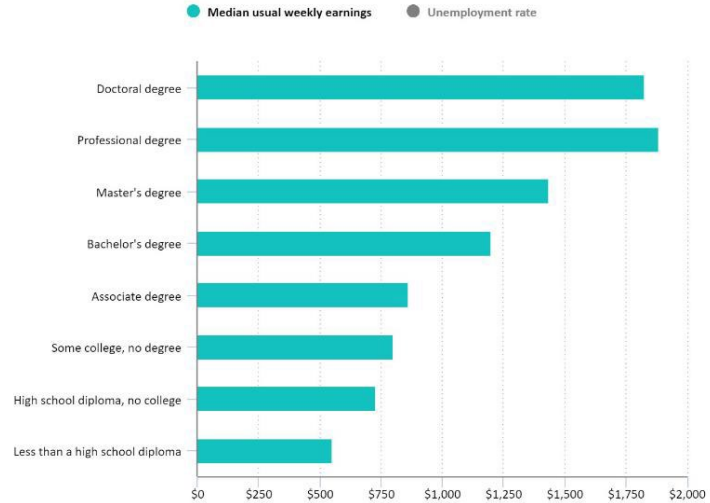
- Help you reach your career goal
- Professions that require a graduate degree
- Find opportunities that are aligned with your career goals

COMPENSATION

- A graduate degree can be worth more in lifetime earnings than a high school diploma
- Increase in compensation depends on the position and or industry

EDUCATION PAYS

Median weekly earnings and unemployment rate by educational attainment, 2018



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.
Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.



STAYING MARKETABLE

- For some professions without an advanced degree continued advancement is limited
- Having an employer pay for your advanced degree
- It is important to know what are your own reasons for attending graduate school

WHEN SHOULD YOU CONSIDER GRADUATE SCHOOL?

Immediately

PROS

- Accustomed to being a student
- Study Skills are sharp
- Less obligations
- Occupations that require advanced degrees

CONS

- Could choose the wrong program
- Not a competitive candidate to admissions committee
- Unlikely to fund entire tuition and expenses

WHEN SHOULD YOU CONSIDER GRADUATE SCHOOL?

After Work Experience

PROS

- Confirmed your career goals through hands-on practical experience
- Completed the needed work experience to apply for graduate programs
- Bring actual work experience to the theory you will learn in class
- Some employers may pay for partial or all of your tuition
- Financial stability

CONS

- Struggle with study skills
- Work, life & school balance
- Attending class and working with students significantly younger
- Leave a paid position to complete an internship opportunity.

WHEN SHOULD YOU CONSIDER GRADUATE SCHOOL?

During Entry level Career

PROS

- Locate employers willing to pay for your education while you work
- Financially stable while concurrently working on improving your skills
- Minimal student loans
- Know you already have a job after graduation

CONS

- Balancing your job, school, and personal life
- Organizing schedule to accommodate school, work and possible unpaid internships
- Adjustment to work/school load; may take longer to complete program

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

- Advising Center
 - Graduate School Counseling
 - Test Preparation Books
- Graduate School Handbook
- Career Counseling
- Writing and Multiliteracy Center



GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

FACULTY

- Expert knowledge in career specific industry
- Share personal career-path
- Research information/opportunity*
- Student selection process*
- Review Essays*

Don't forget the Admission Advisors at your Graduate School of interest!



ATTEND ANNUAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT CSUCI

Graduate School Workshops

Graduate School Night Panel

Graduate & Professional School Fair

Pre-Doctoral Information Sessions

GRADUATE SCHOOL SUPPORT

Graduate School Counseling

Career Center

Test Preparation Books

Graduate School Handbook



RESEARCH CAREER OPTIONS

- U.S. Bureau of Labor & Statistics
 - www.bls.gov
- Educational and Career Planning
 - www.myplan.com
- Career exploring
 - <http://mynextmove.org>
 - <http://www.onetonline.org/>

RESEARCHING EMPLOYMENT & CAREER OUTLOOK

- From the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook:
 - Can help you find career information on responsibilities, education, training, pay, and outlook for hundreds of occupations
 - <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

REFERENCES

Dang, P. California State University Channel Islands. *Plan B Graduate School or Full-Time Work* [PowerPoint slides]. Retrieved from Career Development Services