Steps to Success

2009 Median Annual Earnings by Levels of Educational Attainment:

- Master’s Degree: $65,364
- Bachelor’s Degree: $53,300
- Associate’s Degree: $39,572
- High School Graduate: $32,552
- Less Than High School: $23,608

Uneducated = Unemployed

Unemployment Rates by Levels of Educational Attainment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Than High School</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate’s Degree</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data are 2009 annual averages for persons age 25 and over.

An Employer’s Perspective

“Someone who couldn’t complete high school probably finds it difficult to complete any task.”

“How bright can a high school dropout be?”

“High school can be hard work. A high school dropout is probably scared of a little hard work.”

“A high school dropout didn’t learn some things that are needed to perform well in this job.”