Good Jobs That Don't Require A 4-Year Degree

TRAINING BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Some jobs require formal training beyond high school but not a college degree. For example, Licensed Practical Nurses usually have certificates of training from a technical or community college. This is called a "postsecondary career award." These are not four-year college degrees but certificate or diploma programs that provide essential skills and training specific to the job.

To find out which South Carolina technical colleges offer diploma or certificate programs, please visit www.SCTechSystem.com/Colleges.html and select a college near you.

Staff in SC Department of Employment and Workforce SC Works Centers are familiar with training available in your area. Please feel free to ask them about training opportunities. To find your local SC Works Center, please visit www.SCWorks.org/directory.asp.

Have you heard of apprenticeships? It combines on-the-job training, mentoring, and classroom training for certain jobs, plus you get paid while you learn! Formal apprenticeships are registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. For more information, go to www.ApprenticeshipCarolina.com.

QUALITIES

Employers look for many things in a job candidate. The basic qualities are:

- Punctuality: being on time
- Dependability: can you be relied on?
- Taking Instruction: doing what you are asked
- to do
- Cooperation: working well with others
- Integrity: can you be trusted?

BENEFITS

The range of benefits (things other than a paycheck) offered by certain jobs can be broad. Generally, jobs at large companies offer bigger benefits packages, but don't rule out small companies.

When you're looking at possible jobs, you might want to start with employers who offer some of these benefits:

- Stable work hours
- Opportunities to advance
- Holidays
- Vacation leave, sick leave or family leave
- Health insurance
- Education benefits
- Retirement benefits

SC Department of Employment and Workforce
Business Intelligence Department
SCWorkforceInfo.com
803-737-2660

"I don't have a four-year college degree … Are there good jobs for me?"

Are you someone who just doesn't see themselves in a college classroom for four years? You don't like studying and can't see yourself doing homework for four more years? Need retraining to get a better job? Maybe you want to go to college but can't afford it right now.

Don't worry! There are jobs in South Carolina that are expected to have many openings and do not require a four-year college degree.

SELECTED JOBS IN SC WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF OPENINGS AND GOOD WAGES

On-the-Job Training (OJT), work experience, and/or high school diploma

Job Title	Average Hourly Pay ($)
Truck Drivers, Heavy *	19.51
Medical Secretaries	15.34
Construction Laborers	14.42
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	16.50
Medical Assistants	14.10
Security Guards	13.32
Pharmacy Technicians	14.45
Home Health Aides	9.75
Plumbers Helpers	13.50

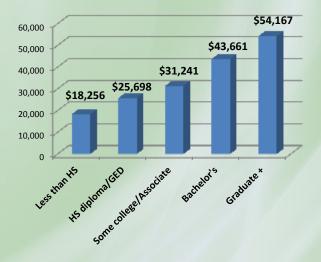**Long-term OJT or up to two years of education after high school**

Job Title	Average Hourly Pay ($)
Registered Nurses*	29.38
Heating & A/C Mechanics	20.05
Medical Records Technicians	17.22
Electricians	21.02
Nursing Assistants	11.59
Licensed Practical Nurses*	18.95
Carpenters	18.46
Computer Support Specialists	21.81
Team Assemblers	15.23
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	24.35

* requires licensing

The More You Learn, The More You Earn!

Income by Educational Level in SC, 2014

- Less than HS: $18,256
- HS diploma/GED: $25,698
- Some college/Associate: $31,241
- Bachelor's: $43,661
- Graduate +: $54,167

A WORD ABOUT LICENSING…

More than 139 professions and occupations require a license in South Carolina. Licensing is regulated by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

For more information on licensing, please visit their website at www.llronline.com.

NOTE: Some employers may accept work experience in lieu of required education and/or training. Data from 2014-2024 Statewide Occupational Projections; wages are for 2015.