

Earning Potential

Discovery Activities



Name _____

Earning Potential Vocabulary

1. An **Apprentice** is someone who learns a trade or skill by working for a person who has already become successful at that trade or skill.
2. **529 Plans** are pre-tax financial savings accounts that are designated for educational expenses.
3. **FAFSA** forms are used to apply for federal financial aid to attend a college or university. Federal financial aid may include student loans and grants.
4. A **Financial Advisor** is a person who can give you advice about how to manage your money to reach your financial goals.
5. **Grants** are awards of money that do not have to be paid back. This money can only be spent for the purpose of the grant. For example, an educational grant can only be used for approved educational expenses. Most grants require that you submit proof of how you have spent the grant money after you have spent it.
6. **Scholarships** are awards of money that do not have to be paid back. Unlike grants, you usually do not have to submit a report of how you spent the money.
7. **Student Loans** are amounts of money that you can borrow to pay for approved educational expenses, usually for attending a college or university. This money must be paid back plus interest.
8. **Technical Training** is a type of education that gives you a specific set of skills. Technical training is usually a shorter amount of time than a formal degree program at a college or university.
9. **Tuition** is the amount of money that a college or university charges for attending that school.
10. **Vocation** is your chosen career field. Vocational training is a type of technical training that is related to your job, or to the job that you would like to have.

Earning Potential Reflection Questions

1. What is “earning power”?
2. Why do you think people get paid more for some types of work and less for others in our society?
3. Which level of schooling turned out to be most lucrative for the student?
4. Does more schooling **always** equate to greater earnings in your future? Why?
5. What are two professions you’re interested in?
 - a.
 - b.

Research what your financial future might look like if you choose one of these professions. Fill in the same table we filled in for the Earning Potential Activity. Find the average cost of the school (or type of school) you would need to attend – look at what your loan amount would be if you financed all your schooling through student loans. What would it be if you did half (as we did in the Earning Potential Activity). Use the student loan calculator at <https://www.bankrate.com/calculators/college-planning/loan-calculator.aspx> to find out what your payments would look like.

	Totals
Income	
Student Loan Amount	
Monthly Loan Payment	
Interest Paid	
Total Amount Paid	

List ways you can take out less in student loans as you gain training/certificates/degrees to increase your earning potential.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Choose Your Path

Do you already have a career or professional goal in mind? If not, is there a career you have always thought might be fun? How much will you earn if you choose this career? Do you know how much it will cost to be considered for this career? Do you know how you will pay for these expenses? Using the internet or your local library, find the information to fill in the table below.

Goal	Potential Income	Cost	How I Would Pay for It (one year)
Example: 2-year Degree at Local Community College	\$10,000-\$30,000 per year more in income than no degree at all (if you have a career in mind, be more specific)	Average cost in Oregon \$4,145 per year (May vary by state)	Scholarships - \$100 Grants - \$100 Summer Jobs - \$1,000 529 Plan - \$500 Student loans - \$2,000 Other - \$445
High School Diploma			
Start a Business			
Military			
Technical Training			
4 Year College Degree (Bachelor's Degree)			
Graduate Degree (Master's degree)			
Other			

Entrepreneurship Worksheet

Entrepreneurs are individuals who see a need for a service or product and start or acquire a business to fill that need. There are many ways to start a business, and your business should suit your personality as well. Using the internet or your local library, fill in the information in the chart below.

Type of Business	Personality Traits	Would I Enjoy it?	Why or Why Not?
Example: Retail	Organized and keeps in touch with people, has good communication skills.	Yes	I am very organized and I am good at keeping in touch with people.
Manufacturing	Good with math, has ideas for new products, detail-oriented.		
Wholesale	Wants to deal with a few distributors instead of lots of customers. Works well under pressure.		
Service	Feels good helping others. Has a giving nature.		
Franchise	Prefers less risk by using a proven brand, willing to do what they're told to do by corporate headquarters.		
Artist/Musician	Some natural talent, is willing to practice, and good at self-promotion.		