

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Obtain the education or training necessary to meet the requirements of your chosen career. From high school to college, or technical credentials, we have tools and resources to help you reach your career goals.

## High School/GED/HiSet

There are several credentials that are at the level of a high school diploma or equivalency. Each option offers different benefits and there may be a better choice for you depending on your career goals. Make sure you determine if you are planning on pursuing additional education beyond high school/GED/HiSET, so you know which option is the right choice for you.

- [Excel Adult High School](#): Get your high school diploma completely online through this accredited program. You must meet certain admission criteria and be accepted into the program.
- [LearningExpress Library](#): Take online practice exams for the GED or HiSET and you'll be ready for test day (Library card and PIN required).
- [Adult Education](#): Kansas City Public Schools Adult Education offers Preparation for the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), College Entrance Prep, Basic Skills Remediation, English Language Proficiency and Acquisition (ESL), Workforce Readiness and Soft Skills Training, Digital Literacy/Computer Use, and Career Exploration.
- [Adult Education](#): The North Kansas City School's adult education offers classes to prepare to take the Missouri High School Equivalency Test, classes to prepare to attend college or job training, and School for Adult English Language Learners.
- [State of Missouri – HiSET requirements](#): Learn what you need to study for the test, eligibility requirements, testing locations, and how to register for it.
- [Test prep library resources](#): "Check out" these practice books for all kinds of tests and certification exams.
- [Mometrix Test Prep](#): Utilize prep materials to excel in various tests and certification exams.
- [Educational Opportunity Center](#): Provides services with attaining high school diploma/equivalent, choosing the best college to meet your needs, as well as the application process, financial aid application assistance, and related.

## Local Technical Training & Credentialing Resources

There are many local and free training and non-degree credentialed programs available that can help you increase your employability and paycheck! These programs are short-term commitments that will help you quickly increase your employability for free.

- [Great Jobs KC](#): Allows participants to work with a Scholar Advocate and train in areas such as information technology, healthcare, manufacturing, logistics/warehouse, construction, or service careers. This program also connects participants to support services such as childcare and transportation.
- [Per Scholas](#): Offers tuition-free tech career training in only 2-4 months.
- [Goodwill](#): Offers free certifications in various industries - Grow with Google programs, including social media marketing, and IBM Skills Build program including cybersecurity, data analyst, and customer service. Check out their website for all program offerings.

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- [KU Technology Education Program](#): Offers a free program specifically for women who have justice-involved backgrounds, offering training in computer skills such as information privacy, website creation, basic coding skills, online security, standard office programs and social media.
- [Missouri Apprentice Ready Program](#): Interested in working in construction? Free construction apprentice training is offered through the state of Missouri.
- [Pawsperty](#): Interested in working with dogs? Pawsperty offers a free 6-month training program in the art of dog grooming designed to help struggling parents lift themselves out of poverty.
- [Green Core Training](#): Interested in working in the green economy? The free Green Core training program provides you with work readiness training and environmental literacy in order to qualify for various environmental jobs.
- [Launch Code](#): Offers free courses, resources and prep programs for entry-level jobs in the tech field – software developer, web developer, java developer, data analysis instructor, and more.
- [Full Employment Council](#): Offers training with credentials in job growth fields, such as healthcare, information technology, business and more.
- [State of Missouri Website](#): Offers information on free skills and job training through Missouri Job Centers.
- [FEMA](#): Extensive course list offerings for free independent study in Emergency Management. Most course content is available online.
- [SkillUp](#): SNAP recipients have access to a free program that helps interested participants develop in-demand skills through training and provides connections to employers. Check out the program brochure for additional information.

## *Two- & Four-Year Colleges & Universities, Degree Seeking*

There are many options to pursue credentials beyond a high school diploma. We encourage you to do research on your options. If you would like additional assistance to determine which path is right for you, the [Educational Opportunity Center](#) is a resource that is free and available to the public.

- Types of institutions and programs to consider include:
  - Vocational and Trade Schools that can provide technical, hands-on training to prepare you for a technical career in two years or less.
  - Community Colleges offer a variety of options in under two years and offer pathways to pursue additional education at a four-year institution if you choose.
  - Four-year colleges and universities can also be good options depending on your situation and your employment goals. Check out the links below for additional information as you consider enrolling in an educational institution.
- [Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges](#): Use the Directory feature to find an accredited career or trade school near you. Accreditation helps ensure the quality of the education and credential you are working towards. Often, employers require a credential from an institution that has received accreditation.
- The [National Center for Education Statistics](#): Provides a directory of institutions based on zip code and provides information about the institution type as well as its non-profit or for-

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profit status.

- [Training Provider Results](#): Helps individuals make informed career training choices based on the program's completion and employment results.
- [The College Score Card](#): Allows you to search and compare colleges: their fields of study, costs, admissions, results, and more.

*In regards to paying for higher education, please visit <https://kclibrary.org/finance#college>*

## Career Licensure

Depending on your field, you may be required to take certified exams for state licensure. Here are resources that can guide you in the right direction and help you prepare for licensure exams.

- [LearningExpress Library](#): Prepare for career licensure exams by taking practice tests in fields like cosmetology, EMS, plumbing, nursing and many more (Library card number and PIN required to access).
- [Missouri Division of Professional Registration](#): Check state licensure requirements for various professions.
- [Mometrix Test Prep](#): Utilize prep material to excel in hundreds of test and certification exams.

## Technology Training Resources

Are you looking to increase your digital skills? The library has many resources that can help you regardless of what you know about computers, technology, and digital devices.

- [NorthStar](#): The NorthStar assessment can assess your digital skills and help you learn new ones. NorthStar is used by many employers to determine if you have the digital skills necessary for employment.
- [DigitalLearn.org](#): Sign up for a Digital Learn account with your library card number to learn about computer basics, Microsoft Office apps and more.
- [Tech Access](#): Not sure where to start? Or are you looking for advanced opportunities to learn about careers in technology or how to use Google for your small business? Check out the library's Tech Access department for all things technology.
- [LinkedIn Learning](#): Learn business, software, technology or creative skills to advance professional and personal skills (Library Card and PIN required). Examples include Adobe Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, and many more! Browse course offerings to increase your skills today!

## Professional Associations & Organizations

- [Professional associations and organizations](#): Join your industry's professional organization, volunteer, or serve on its board to help you stay abreast of your industry while making valuable networking connections.