

A JOB THAT PAYS

Lesson 3

A hand in a dark grey suit sleeve with a light blue shirt cuff is holding a fan of US dollar bills. The bills are fanned out, showing various denominations including a \$100 bill with the portrait of Benjamin Franklin. The background is a plain, light color.

In a few years, you are expected to get a job—one that pays. Do you know that your projected age of retirement is 73? That means you will spend about 50 years of your life working.

- *Has anyone given thought to the type of work they'd like to do for those 50 years?*

I. JOB OR CAREER?

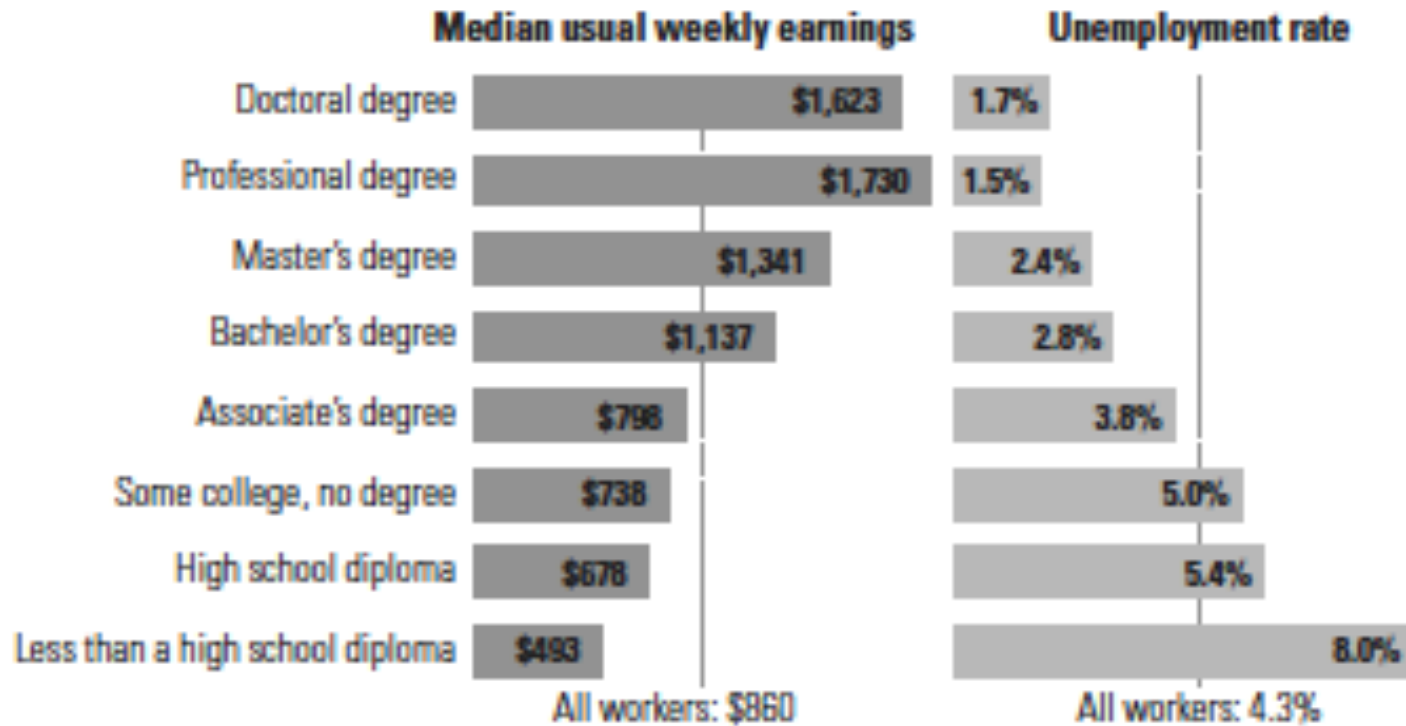
- **Job:** Minimum wage, limited advancement, limited benefits, limited security, limited social mobility.
- **Career:** Your career is a life journey which must be carefully plotted, reviewed, and adjusted throughout your life time

II. CHOOSING A CAREER

- STEP 1: Think
- STEP 2: Explore
- STEP 3: Get Educated
- STEP 4: Apply for a Job (That Pays)
- STEP 5: The Job Interview

DEGREES VS. DIPLOMAS

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2015



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

THE BIG PICTURE

- You will spend over 50 years of your life in the workforce. Don't guess, hope, or roll the dice on matters of such importance as a career choice and career prep. Soon you will begin making decisions that will impact your earnings potential throughout your life time. Give your career path plenty of thought. Plan for 2, 4, or more years of postsecondary education. Check out CTE and other alternatives if the traditional four year college isn't for you. A financially literate person knows how to locate information to help them make informed decisions about their future career. Research wages, potential employers, and job locations. Make an effort to learn practical skills that will be attractive to an employer. A strong postsecondary education pays off many times over in the form of higher wages, increased job security and satisfaction, and the ability to build wealth.

PONDER & PREDICT

- You earn more than a salary at a job. In fact, sometimes salary is the least of a prospective employee's concerns. In what other very important wealth-building ways are employees compensated?