

# POST HIGH SCHOOL ALTERNATIVES

There are many different options available to students about what they would like to do when they graduate from high school. While many students follow a path to college, others choose to pursue an alternative route to the career or life they desire. Some of these alternate options are discussed below. Regardless of what your goals are, it is important to speak with your school counselor to discuss the most appropriate post-secondary plan for you.

## Post-Graduate (PG) Year

A post-graduate, or PG, year is typically an additional year of academic study in a boarding school environment where a student can transition to the college lifestyle. Some students may choose to do a PG year to build upon existing academic foundations, to strengthen social or academic skills prior to college, or to increase proficiency in an area such as art, music, or athletics. To learn more about PG years, speak with your guidance counselor and explore the following resources:

[The Association of Boarding Schools](#)

[The National Association of Independent Schools](#)

## Volunteer and Service Programs

Many organizations provide service or community aid to others in all types of settings. Your length of involvement in such programs can vary significantly, so it is important to fully research each opportunity. Listed below are a few of many different service organizations.

[Peace Corps](#)

[City Year](#)

[Americorps](#)

[Habitat for Humanity](#)

[Volunteer Match](#)

## Outdoor Adventure/Non-Traditional Classrooms

Many students express an interest in exploring different parts of the country and the world. There are a number of programs allowing students to do just that. Some of these non-traditional classrooms give academic credit, but it is important to fully research each program. A few programs are listed below.

[Outward Bound](#)

[National Outdoor Leadership School](#)

[Semester at Sea](#)

## Military Service

There are five branches of the military. Enlisting can offer a wide variety of job training skills in a number of vocational areas. Once basic training is completed, individuals must complete two years or more of service.

[Army](#)

[Navy](#)

[Air Force](#)

[Marines](#)

[Coast Guard](#)

## Study Abroad Programs

Studying in another country is a great way to learn while immersing yourself in another culture. The length of time spent abroad can vary from program to program. Several programs are listed below.

[Study Abroad](#)

[Friends World Program](#)

[International Student Exchange Programs](#)

[AFS Intercultural Program](#)

## Vocational Training or Internship Programs

Internships are excellent ways to gain experience and learn vocational skills by being placed on-site in a particular industry. Some internship programs are listed below.

[The Dynamy Interim Programs](#)