WHAT'S NEXT?

Jobs, Careers and Education Possibilities in Allegheny County

It's Your Life Resource Booklet Western Pennsylvania

www.afsc.org/pittsburgh
7514 Kensington Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-371-3607
swahrhaftig@afsc.org

American Friends Service Committee
Making life decisions can be difficult.

How should you start?

ASK yourself: What do I like to do? What makes me happy?

THINK about what you are good at. What are your talents or skills? Every activity, experience, or job you have had taught you something – what have you learned to do well?

CHOOSE a direction that will allow you to do things that you enjoy while using your skills.

Remember: you have valuable skills to offer!

CONNECT with people in the working world who might be able to help you. Tell your friends, relatives, teachers, or neighbors what you want or what you are looking for. Ask them for ideas.

TAKE A STEP toward your goal. Search for work, training, experiences, or education that will move you closer to your goal.

This booklet can help you get started. It lists places to go in Allegheny County to look for a job, find the training you need, finish your degree, or find money for college. It will help you find a mentor, a tutor, a trainer, or an employer.

What’s Next? Jobs Careers and Education Possibilities in Allegheny County is comprised of information from open-access websites and personal correspondence. The information in this booklet is paraphrased from the original (usually web-based) sources. We encourage readers to check the original sources, as information and services are subject to change.
Table of Contents

Find a Job – Start a Career ....................... 2
Searching for a Job .................................. 2
Job Preparation and Assistance .................. 6
Internships, Apprenticeships and Training ... 9

Education ............................................. 12
After School and Out-of-School Programs..12
Get your Diploma or GED ....................... 15
Preparing for Higher Education
and Community Colleges ..................... 16
Find Money for College ......................... 19
Paying for College .................................. 21

Public Libraries .................................... 22

Thinking of Joining the Military? .......... 24

Acknowledgments ......................... Back Cover
Find a Job – Start a Career
Searching for a Job

These organizations and services are designed to help you find a job that is right for you. They offer job search tools and assist with job placements. Some also help prepare you for employment, providing job preparation workshops, resume assistance, and more. Some programs provide internships or job training programs.

Ameri-corps
Job/internship opportunities for high school and college graduates all over the United States.
One-year terms include money for education or vocational training, healthcare, childcare assistance and more.

Contact
www.americorps.gov
1-800-942-2677 (”1” for application, “0” for specialist)
Email: questions@americorps.org

Bidwell Training Center
Training programs in culinary arts, office technology, horticulture and various medical fields.
Provides academic and support services.

Contact
www.bidwell-training.org
1815 Metropolitan St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
(across from UPS)
412-323-4000 or 1-800-516-1800
(Ask for admissions representative)
Email: admissions@mcg-btc.org

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation – Youth Development Center
Offers paid work experience, online tutoring, job preparation services and more.

Contact
5129 Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-441-9833
www.bloomfield-garfield.org
Email: information@bloomfield-garfield.org

The ‘Burgh Works
A Pittsburgh Jobs Blog
A blog to inform area jobseekers and recruiters about Pittsburgh job news, advice, and happenings concerning the job market – especially for hourly, entry-level or mid-level skill positions.
Includes links to several job search sites and tools.

Contact
www.burghworks.com
CareerLink Pittsburgh

Offers employment consultation services and access to a database of job opportunities.

Free workshops on resume writing, interviewing, career discernment and more.

Contact

www.careerlinkpittsburgh.com
Downtown Pittsburgh
Regional Enterprise Tower, 22nd Floor
415 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-552-7100 or 1-866-317-JOBS (5627) job seekers press “1”

Allegheny West
Robinson Plaza Two, Suite 410
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
412-809-3500

Allegheny East
2040 Ardmore Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 25221
412-436-2225

Greater Pittsburgh Supported Employment Association

Offers supported employment opportunities to those with severe disabilities.

Contact

www.gpsea.org
412-374-9052
Email: info@gpsea.org

Hill House – Family and Workforce Development

Services include job placement, readiness and preparation. Offers career/employment development programs and more.

Contact

www.HillHouse.org (click on “Family and Workforce Development)
1835 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-392-4410

Hill Oakland Workforce Collaborative – Job Links

Provides job search and placement assistance. Offers one-on-one counseling, resume preparation, assistance with employment applications, vocational training information, basic computer training, internet access, practice interview sessions and more.

Contact

www.workforcesolutionshealthcare.com
3360 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-621-3821
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Offers employment services for disabled persons.
Contact
www.dli.state.pa.us
(In “keyword search,” type: OVR)
531 Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-392-4950

Pennsylvania Conservation Corps
Offers training and experience while people do work of value to their community.
Offers work in state and local parks, state game lands and historical sites, as well as on other public lands.
Offers one year term of service which can be extended for up to two six-month periods.
Contact
www.dli.state.pa.us
(In “keyword search,” type: PCC)
1304 Labor & Industry Building,
651 Boas Street
Harrisburg, PA 17121
1-888-577-4722 (toll free, PA only); 717-783-6385
Email: pcc@state.pa.us

PennsylvaniaJobs.com
Website offers a job search tool, information on job fairs and employment events and more.
Allows users to create a personal “My Jobs Site,” submit a resume, and get in touch with potential employers.
Contact
www.pennsylvaniajobs.com

Pittsburgh Employment Guide
Website with easy job search tool, news about local job fairs, and information on who’s hiring in the greater Pittsburgh area.
Sign up for a free “Job Seeker” account, with which you can quickly apply for jobs online.
Contact
www.pittsburgh.employmentguide.com

Pittsburgh Job Corps
Offers career and technical training, social skills counseling and recreation and wellness services, especially to disadvantaged young people.
Contact
http://pittsburgh.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx
7175 Highland Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-8700

State Civil Service Commission
Offers public service opportunities for high school graduates.
Learn about opportunities in
state and local government. A wide variety of jobs ranging from accounting, information technology, healthcare, law enforcement, education and much more.

Contact

www.scsc.state.pa.us
(click on “High School graduates” in the upper left hand corner.

1503 State Office Building
300 Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-1210
412-565-7666

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh – Employment, Training and Economic Empowerment Department

Provides job counseling, placement services, resume assistance, interview advice, online job searches, diversity job fairs and more.

“The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh is committed to diversity and is dedicated to increasing opportunities for African Americans and other people of color.”

Contact

www.ulpgh.org
610 Wood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-227-4802

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

One of the leading health systems in the United States, UPMC employs thousands of people in many different kinds of positions, from doctors to nurses to food service and maintenance workers. Use their handy job-search tool online to find a job that matches your interests and skills.

Offers good salaries and extensive benefits.

Contact

www.upmc.com/careersatUPMC

Job Search Websites

Quick and easy online job listings for the Pittsburgh area:

http://pittsburgh.craigslist.org/jjj
http://classified.post-gazette.com/jobs
www.monster.com
www.pittsburghjobs.com
www.snagajob.com
www.careerbuilders.com
www.workpittsburgh.com
Job Preparation and Assistance
Make Yourself Marketable and
Get Help Searching For a Job!

These places specialize in helping you prepare for employment, making it easier for you to find a job. With their help, you are more likely to find a job that pays well and interests you. They offer employment-readiness workshops, help you prepare a resume, provide job counseling, offer practice interviews and more! Some provide real work experience, and many assist with finding job placements.

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation – Youth Development Center
Offers paid work experience, online tutoring, job preparation services and more.

Contact
www.bloomfield-garfield.org
5129 Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-441-9833

CareerLink Pittsburgh
Offers employment consultation services and access to a database of job opportunities.
Free workshops on resume writing, interviewing, career discernment and more.

Contact
www.careerlinkpittsburgh.com
Downtown Pittsburgh
425 Sixth Ave., Regional 6

Enterprise Tower, 22nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
413-552-7100 or 1-866-317-JOBS (5627) Job seekers press “1”

Allegheny West
Robinson Plaza Two, Suite 410
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-809-3500

Allegheny East
2040 Ardmore Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-436-2225

Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center
Call or stop by for help with job training and placements, resumes, access to internet and computers and one-to-one job counseling.

Offers up-to-date job postings. Onsite employer interviews every Thursday!

Contact
Email: enenhelp@yahoo.com
Hill House

Services include job placement, readiness and preparation. Offers career development programs and more.

Contact

www.HillHouse.org (click on “Family and Workforce Development.”)
1835 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-392-4400

Job and Career Education Center – Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Website provides local job postings and job fairs, links to sites for local and national job searches, resume and interview assistance, specific occupational sites, career profit databases, salary information and more.

Materials at the Center cover job search strategies, resume writing, interviewing, career exploration, summer jobs, internships and more.

Contact

www.carnegielibrary.org/research/jobsedu

Pittsburgh Job Corps

Offers career and technical training, social skills, counseling, and recreation and wellness services, especially to disadvantaged young people.

Contact

http://pittsburgh.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx
7175 Highland Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-8700

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh – Employment, Training, and Economic Empowerment Department

Provides job counseling, placement services, resume assistance, interview advice, online job searches, diversity job fairs and more.

“The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh is committed to diversity and is dedicated to increasing opportunities for African Americans and other people of color.”

Contact

www.ulpgh.org
610 Wood St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-227-4802
Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh (see above) Education and Youth Development Department

“The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh’s education programs are designed to inspire, encourage, lead and cultivate young African Americans as well as other underprivileged children to excel academically. The goal of the Education & Youth Development Department is to allow students to make educated decisions about their future and obtain comprehensive information.”

YouthWorks
Helps young people pursue employment, providing Job Readiness Training (JRT), career and professional development workshops, and linking youth with local employment or internship opportunities.

Contact
Program Manager, Workforce Development (currently Deb Rock, drock@youthworksinc.org)
www.youthworksinc.org
401 Wood St., Suite 1500
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-6629
Email: jobs@youthworksinc.org

YWCA Greater Pittsburgh
Offers financial literacy trainings and other information/resources to women seeking greater financial independence and security. Workshops on wealth-development strategies, and more.

Contact
www.ywcapgh.org
305 Wood St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-391-5100
Email: ywca@ywcapgh.org
Internships, Apprenticeships and Training
Get Paid, Learn a Trade

Here you will find organizations that will train you for a specific job or career. Some offer paid or unpaid **internships** – temporary job opportunities allowing students to get practical work experience. Internships are a great way to get experience, to get plugged into a company, and to make you more likely to be hired. Some organizations offer paid or unpaid **apprenticeships** – experience-based training programs for a trade or craft. Apprenticeships are especially valuable because companies often hire the apprentices that they train. Some organizations provide **job training** for skilled jobs like construction, cooking, manufacturing, and more.

### The Builders Guild of Western Pennsylvania

Learn to be a boilermaker, brick or cement mason, carpenter, electrician, painter, ironworker, roofer and many more.

Free training and apprentices earn wages and receive benefits. Learn more about the 16 participating companies and apply for apprenticeships to individual training centers directly by using website, writing, or calling.

**Contact**
www.buildersguild.org (Click “Careers & Training; apprenticeships”)
650 Ridge Rd, Suite 301
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
412-921-9000

### Boys and Girls Club Youth Enterprise Zone

Offers programs that educate and train high school students for the workforce. Includes internships and other direct work-related experiences.

**Contact**
www.youthenterprisezone.org
5432 Butler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-782-5710
Email: yez@ccchs.org

---

**Volunteer!**

Volunteering at local organizations is a great way to get connected to your community while gaining work experience. Volunteering increases your chances of getting hired!
Career Voyages

Offers apprenticeships and information about community colleges in advanced manufacturing, aerospace, automotive industries, construction, energy, healthcare, homeland security, hospitality, information technology, transportation and more.

Contact
www.careervoyages.gov
1-877-US-2Jobs (872-5627)

Garfield Jubilee Association

Employment Training

Programs provide training in Office Technology and Construction.
Also helps students obtain GED or complete diploma.

Greater PA Regional Council of Carpenters

Paid apprenticeship program renewable up to 4 years. Learn commercial, residential, or heavy construction, or focus on floor-laying, cabinet-making, or pile-driving, etc.

Contact
Training Director: Ray Vogel; rvogel@greaterpacarpenters.org; 412-262-1830 ext. 3414.
www.greaterpacarpenters.org
Neville Island Training Center:
222 Third St., Neville Island
Pittsburgh, PA 15225
412-262-1830
Email: jac@greaterpacarpenters.org

New Century Careers

Offers training programs for beginner and intermediate manufacturing jobs with good wages and benefits. Qualifying applicants train for free.

Contact
http://www.ncsquared.com
333 East Carson St., Suite 431
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-258-6620
Rosedale Technical Institute
School dedicated to job training. Offers hands-on learning, with a large workshop area.
Train to be a certified Auto Mechanic, Diesel Mechanic, or Electrician.
Financial aid and tutoring available. The Placement Department sets up interviews with employers for graduates, and also provides trainings in resume writing and interviewing.
Contact
www.rosedaletech.org
215 Beecham Dr., No. 2
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
1-800-521-6262

US Dept of Labor Employment and Training Administration
Website offers online resources and search tools to help young people find jobs or choose careers.
Provides links to websites offering registered apprenticeships and localized job searches at www.doleta.gov/atels_bat
Contact
www.doleta.gov
1-877-US2-Jobs (1-877-872-5627)

Western Pennsylvania Operating Engineers Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program
Learn to operate or fix and maintain heavy construction equipment, such as cranes, backhoes, rollers, bulldozers, etc.
Four-year training program – tuition free!
Combines training with actual on-the-job experience. When not training on-site, WPOE may provide a job with local employers who offer a paycheck and medical benefits.
Contact
www.wpaoperators.org
107 Operators Way
New Alexandria, PA 15670
(724) 668-2244

Job Shadow
Follow an adult friend or mentor to work, learn about their job, ask questions and look for an internship or other opportunity. Job shadowing is a great way to learn about jobs, to show initiative and to get hired!
Education

After School and Out of School Programs

These programs provide places for youth to learn, have fun, and/or get help with school and employment. Some programs focus on art or athletics, while others provide tutoring, homework help, or job counseling.

3 Rivers Computer Clubhouse

Creative after-school learning opportunities in photography, fashion design, graphic design, journalism, music and video production, lego robotics, web podcasting, web design and more.

Helps members explore professional jobs and academic opportunities.

Contact
www.3rcc.org
5854 Baum Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-924-0053

Boys and Girls Club

Youth Enterprise Zone

Offers programs that educate and train high school students for the workforce. Includes internships and other direct work-related experiences.

Contact
www.youthenterprisezone.org
5432 Butler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-782-5710
Email: yez@ccchs.org

Hill House Association

Youth Services

Youth programs offer tutoring, homework assistance and remediation, and life skills and wellness lessons. Vocal, instrumental and dance lessons, and other youth development programs.

Contact
www.HillHouse.org
1835 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-392-6471
(Charlotte McDonald)
Hill Oakland
Workforce Collaborative
Job Links: School 2 Career Program (s2c)

Program to assist youth in making successful career choices.

Offers career assessments, PSAT/SAT classes, computer classes, resume assistance, interviewing tips, job shadowing and mentoring sessions, leadership skills, introductions to healthcare industry and more.

Orientation during the summer, and Career Development and Computer Technology training during the school year. Homework assistance and tutoring daily.

Contact
www.workforcesolutionshealthcare.com/stc.html
Hill-Oakland Workforce Collaborative, Job Links
3360 5th Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-621-3821

Hosanna House
Community Center with programs offering basic skills, work readiness, job skills, and career planning. Provides classroom training and work experience.

Contact
www.hosannahouse.org
807 Wallace Ave.
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
412-342-1343

Parental Stress Center
Offers youth programs in the performing arts (YPAC), athletics, academic excellence and leadership (PUSH), and a Junior Chef Society.

Contact
www.pscfamily.net
5877 Commerce St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-361-4800
Union Project

Employs high school youth in an on-site café, as well as through ceramic production and stain glass restoration.

Contact

www.unionproject.org
801 North Negley Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-363-4550

Urban Youth Action Inc.

Free tutoring and after school programs during the school year.

Programs provide life-skills information, internship placements and work experience, mentoring relationships, post-high school education information, SAT prep, and more.

Contact

www.urbanyouthaction.org
333 Forbes Ave.
Warner Centre, 1st Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-391-7807
Email: info@urbanyouthaction.org
Get your Diploma or GED

These places are here to help you get your GED or complete your diploma. They provide tutoring, assistance, and test preparation.

Carlow University - Office of Community Education

Offers Adult Basic Skills and Literacy Training and GED preparation in a classroom setting and on a one-on-one basis.

The New Choices Program helps single parents and displaced homemakers enter or re-enter the workforce. Offers a wide variety of skills-trainings and assists with job placements.

Pennsylvania Workforce Improvement Network offers training for job-specific work based on an employer’s needs and recommendations.

Contact
http://www.carlow.edu/about-carlow/comm-edu
355 Fifth Ave., 3rd Floor
Park Building, Suite 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-821-9504
E-mail: CarlowCE@aol.com

Communities in Schools

Provides after-school assistance and mentoring programs. Helps students earn their diplomas. Also offers students who have left school (dropped out) a second chance to earn a diploma.

Contact
www.cispac.org
225 Boulevard of the Allies
Suite 404
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-471-7911

Hill House

Offers GED/ABE preparation, job readiness and search training, financial planning workshops, and more.

Contact
www.HillHouse.org
1835 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-392-4410 (Vickie Pittrell)
Phase Four Learning Center
Get help earning your diploma, whether you’re an enrolled student or have withdrawn from school.
One-on-one instruction and mentoring.
Also offers employment training and higher education preparation.
Contact
www.phase4learningcenter.org
5854 Baum Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-924-0053
Email: info@phase4lc.org

Preparing for Higher Education and Community College
Community Colleges are two-year colleges offering low-cost degrees, certificates, or licensing programs. They often have career-oriented programs, and offer hands-on learning opportunities. Get technical training, learn a craft, or get certified for skilled jobs. Community college graduates may also move on to four-year universities for more advanced education or training.

Community College of Allegheny County
As the largest provider of educational services in Western Pennsylvania, CCAC offers good education at an affordable price.
Also offers “Workforce Training” for 70 regional employers. Or ask about Online Career Training programs. Offers career counseling, job placement assistance, and courses on career planning.
Locations in North Shore, Monroeville, McCandless, and West Mifflin.
Contact
www.ccac.edu
Allegheny
Admissions: 412-237-2511
Financial Aid: 412-237-2589
Boyce
Admissions: 724-325-6614
Financial Aid: 724-325-6602
North
Admissions: 412-369-3600
Financial Aid: 412-369-3656
South
Admissions: 412-469-4301
Financial Aid: 412-469-6241
Dean Institute of Technology

Offers Associates degrees in Electrical Technician or Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology.

Offers Diplomas in Welding, Air Condition and Refrigeration Tech., and Building Maintenance.

Provides a Job Placement Service for students.

Contact

http://www.deantech.edu
1501 West Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-531-4433

Job and Career Education Center – Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Website offers information about education and financial aid, college catalogs, and many online practice exams. Users can search for schools and scholarship information.

Materials at the Center include directories of colleges, vocational and technical schools; information about financial aid, applying to and choosing a college. Also offers study guides and practice tests for college admission.

Contact

www.carnegielibrary.org/research/jobsedu
4400 Forbes Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 14213
412-622-3133
Email: jcec@carnegielibrary.org

Pennsylvania Colleges, Universities, Campuses and Trade Schools

Provides an alphabetical list with links to trade schools and colleges in Pennsylvania.

Contact

www.officialusa.com/stateguides/education/colleges/states/pennsylvania.html
Pennsylvania Two-Year Colleges

Provides an alphabetical list with links to every accredited two year college in Pennsylvania.

Contact
www.cset.sp.utoledo.edu/pa2yr.html

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh – Employment, Training, and Economic Empowerment Department

“The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh is committed to diversity and is dedicated to increasing opportunities for African Americans and other people of color.”

SAT prep, college preparation workshops, individual counseling, financial aid workshops and more.

Contact
www.ulpgh.org
610 Wood St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-227-4802
Find Money for College

These resources help you find money for college. For more ideas, check with your school counselor or local library. Financial aid for college comes in many forms. You might seek:

**Scholarships:** Money given for free (doesn’t have to be paid back); usually awarded based on academics, athletics, or leadership qualities.

**Grants:** Money given for free (doesn’t have to be paid back); usually offered based on financial need.

**Loans:** Money borrowed (must be paid back); usually offered based on financial need.

**Work Study:** An “on-campus” job that allows you to work at your college to help pay for school.

Qualified students whose families do not earn a lot of money should not be afraid to apply to colleges. Schools often have “need-based” aid, offering loans and grants to make it possible for you to attend.

**Special Circumstances**

You may find yourself ineligible for financial aid based on

- Drug convictions
- Dependency status
- Immigration status
- Non-registration for Selective Service.

If you are in such a situation, contact the Financial Aid Officer at the school you wish to attend. They may know of special scholarships or funding options that can help you.

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

FAFSA is used by the government to figure out how much financial aid you will need. It determines whether you are eligible for federal and state grants or loans.

Ask your school counselor or a financial aid officer for help filling out the application form. For useful tips and hints, visit www.finaid.org/fafsa.

Get an application from any school, or fill it out for free online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
American Education Services
College planning, loan applications and management.
Contact
www.aesSuccess.org

www.EducationPlanner.org
Get help with career and college planning.
1-800-692-7392

www.CampusChamps.org
Information for student athletes.

www.YouCanDealWithIt.com
Information about managing debt.

Federal Student Aid Guide
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
Find information on federal student financial aid; get help filling out FAFSA; (Click on Students, Parents, and Counselors).

PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency)
Get information and online applications for grants, scholarships, and more. This is the first stop for Pennsylvania residents looking to finance their education.
www.PHEAA.org
1-800-692-7392
Loan Assistance: studentload@aesSuccess.org
Grant Assistance: granthelp@PHEAA.org
Hours of Operation: 7:30 am - 9:00 pm E.T., Mon.-Fri.

Pittsburgh Promise
Provides $5,000 per year for students who meet eligibility requirements:
- Enrolled in Pittsburgh Public Schools and graduate with minimum GPA of 2.25 and minimum attendance record of 85%,
- Earn admission to an eligible school (listed at www.pittsburghpromise.org),
- Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA),
- Complete Pittsburgh Promise Application.
Download the application or apply online at the website.
Contact
www.pittsburghpromise.org
1901 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-281-7605
Paying for College: Serve your World, Service your Loan

Worried that going to college will put you in debt? Are you a college graduate with outstanding loans? These service organizations will help you pay off your college loans.

**Ameri-corps**

Job/internship opportunities for high school and college graduates all over the United States.

One-year terms including money for education or vocational training, healthcare, childcare assistance, and more.

Receive up to $4725 to repay loans or finance further education.

**Contact**

www.americorps.org
1-800-942-2677
Email: questions@americorps.org

**Peace Corps**

Work overseas in developing countries; help with education and youth outreach, health services, environmental protection, business, or agriculture.

Volunteers can have a portion of their loans forgiven (up to 15%).

**Contact**

www.peacecorps.com
1-800-424-8580

**Teach for America**

College graduates can apply to teach (for two years) in an urban or rural public school.

In addition to salary, participants receive up to $4725 per year to repay loans or finance further education.

**Contact**

www.teachforamerica.com
1-800-832-1230
Public Libraries
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
http://www.clpgh.org/

You can find a library near you by clicking “Locations and Departments” on the library’s homepage. Consult the website for hours of operation. Most libraries are open 10am-6pm Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday.

Public libraries are great places to find all kinds of information. Most locations offer free computer use and internet access.

Allegheny / North Side
1230 Federal St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412-237-1890

Beechview
1910 Broadway Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-563-2900

Brookline
708-710 Brookline Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-561-1003

Carrick
1811 Brownsville Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
412-882-3897

Downtown & Business
612 Smithfield St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-7141

East Liberty
130 S. Whitfield St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-363-8232
Hazelwood
4901 Second Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-421-2517

Hill District
2177 Centre Avenue at Kirkpatrick St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-281-3753

Homewood
7101 Hamilton Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-731-3080

Knoxville
400 Brownsville Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
412-381-6543

Lawrenceville
279 Fisk St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-682-3668

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
4724 Baum Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-687-2440
1-800-242-0586

Main (Oakland)
4724 Baum Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-687-2440
1-800-242-0586

Mount Washington
315 Grandview Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15211
412-381-3380

Sheraden
720 Sherwood Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15204
412-331-1135

South Side
2205 East Carson St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-431-0505

Squirrel Hill
5801 Forbes Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412-422-9650

West End
47 Wabash Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
412-921-1717

Woods Run
1201 Woods Run Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412-761-3730
Thinking of Joining the Military?
Questions to ask Military Recruiters before you enlist

1. How long is my enlistment commitment?
2. Can the Armed Forces make me stay longer than I have contracted for? Do I get paid more money for staying longer?
3. Do I have any say in where I go and how long I stay there?
4. How much does a newly enlisted service member get paid per week?
5. Am I guaranteed the ability of going to college?
6. Can I choose my own job, or is it assigned to me?
7. If I change my mind about being in this branch, can I resign?
8. What will happen to me if I decide I don’t want to be involved in the military after I enlist?
9. What are the most dangerous military jobs?
10. Will the skills I learn in the military be useful for civilian life?
11. What are the negative aspects of my training?
12. What do I do if an officer gives me a command that I believe is illegal?
13. What is post-traumatic stress disorder?
14. Will I receive any compensation if I am permanently disabled in war?
15. Have you ever seen combat and do you think exposure to it is healthy for me?
16. Will I be deployed to the Middle East?
Do You Know Enough to Enlist?

1. **Will enlistment help me achieve my goals?**

   Look carefully at what you’ll actually be doing in the military. Often the training and experience you receive is not what you expect and will not prepare you for civilian jobs. Read the fine print on the GI Bill (the military’s money-for-education plan). Most people are not eligible to receive the full amount. Consider the opportunities listed in this booklet as alternatives to military service.

   If you’re thinking about joining the armed forces to get away from a bad personal or family situation, don’t rush to enlist. Many people find that their problems do not go away – they simply change.

2. **Am I willing to give up control?**

   If you enlist, you’ll be a member of the armed forces for at least eight years. If you dislike your job, quitting is not an option.

   Are you willing to risk your life? Are you willing to kill people if you are ordered to do so? Once you join the armed forces, you may not have a choice.

3. **Don’t rely only on recruiters.**

   Make sure you get other opinions and perspectives. Talk with recently discharged veterans. If you talk with recruiters, bring along someone who can help you take notes and ask good questions.

4. **If you decide to enlist...**

   Get all of the recruiter’s promises in writing (spoken promises will not protect you). Do not sign any papers until you review them carefully with someone you trust. Get as much information as possible about the military job you’re hoping to get. Call the GI Rights Hotline if you have doubts or questions: 1-877-447-4487.
Acknowledgments

What’s Next: Jobs, Careers and Education Possibilities in Allegheny County was made possible by a generous grant from the Three Rivers Community Foundation.

The booklet was composed by Luke Kreider (2008-09 AFSC Assistant) and the staff of AFSC’s Pennsylvania Office with important assistance from volunteers Jon Webb, David Kuhn, Rachel Seltman and Janet Seltman. Layout and design by Beth Spence of AFSC’s West Virginia program.

We would also like to acknowledge the inspiration and example provided by previous American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) projects and publications. Their work served as an invaluable guide for the present project. The information in the “Thinking of Joining the Military?” section is paraphrased directly from AFSC’s national Youth & Militarism materials.

The purpose of this booklet is to direct people to existing organizations and services, hoping to heighten awareness and support the mission of these groups. All information is subject to change. To guarantee current and accurate information, we encourage readers to contact the organizations and services directly.

www.afsc.org/pittsburgh
7514 Kensington Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-371-3607
swahrhaftig@afsc.org

American Friends
Service Committee