

RE: Most Idaho high school students skip college

Comment by Marc Stewart – 1/10/14

We live in a global economy and a high school diploma is not enough. In today's world, a college degree is the equivalent of a high school diploma 20 or 30 years ago.

If you're looking to work in a professional field, the national job market demands you have at least Bachelor's Degree. Many employees give preference to those with Master's Degrees.

If you're interested following a manufacturing/vocational career path, many employers expect that you have an Associate's Degree with technical training. Especially, if you want to earn more money over the course of your career.

Yes, college is too expensive and student loans are a huge burden on our national economy. However, people with college degrees typically make much more money in their lifetime than those who do not. There will always be exceptions, but a degree gives you the opportunity to succeed. It will not hurt you.

On a personal note, I made a terrible decision 20 years ago. I dropped out of college and started working in journalism. I am working hard to correct that mistake and am currently taking classes at Lewis-Clark State College in Coeur d'Alene. I will get the degree, but I kick myself routinely for not finishing.

All Idaho high school students should get a college education. A college degree increases your earning potential and positions yourself for a better life.