

**Welcome to Pathways to Graduation
Orientation for ESL and Bilingual Students**

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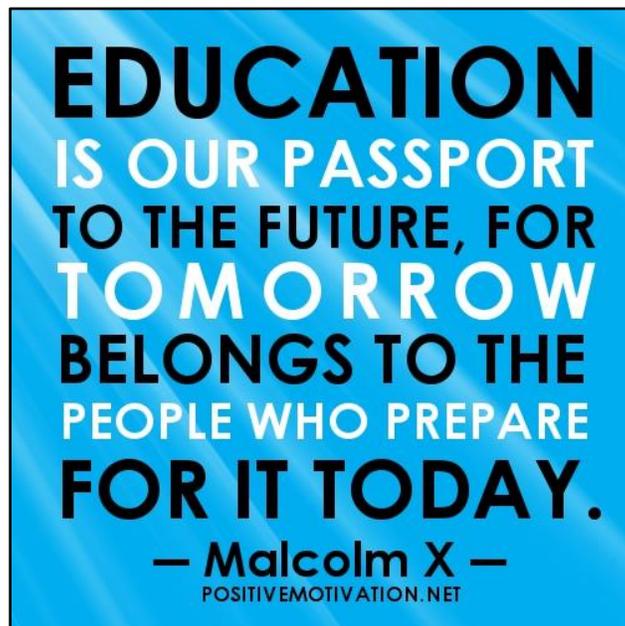
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About Pathways to Graduation

Pathways to Graduation (P2G) is a free, full-time high school equivalency program which prepares students in all five sections of the TASC™: Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies. We have locations citywide, and provide programs for students ages 18-21 who are working toward their high school diploma.

P2G offers TASC™ preparation at all reading and math levels. We also provide ESL and Spanish bilingual instruction, college and career planning, potential internship opportunities, and student MetroCards. Breakfast and/or lunch are also available at select sites.

The TASC™ exam is offered in English and Spanish. New students can prepare for the TASC™ in an ESL program with English-only instruction. Spanish-speaking students may opt for a bilingual program with TASC™ preparation in Spanish and basic ESL instruction.

Students will be placed in an appropriate program within the first 10 days of enrollment. Placement will remain valid for the entire school year (September to June) or until students receive their high school equivalency diploma. All students will have the opportunity to create an individual academic plan with their school guidance counselor.

About the TASC™

The G.E.D has been replaced in New York State with The TASC™, a high school equivalency exam.

- The TASC™ is a high school equivalency exam. Passing it means you will earn your New York State High School Equivalency Diploma.
- The exam is offered in English and Spanish, and takes between 7 to 8 hours to complete over the course of 2 days.
- The exam tests five subject areas: Reading, Writing, Social Studies, Math, and Science.
- Passing the TASC™ High School Equivalency Diploma may expand opportunities for you to get a higher-paying job and apply for college.
- You may test up to 3 times a year, but you must wait 60 days between testing dates.

Graduation Requirements:

In order to be sent for your TASC™ **you must first:**

- Complete 150 hours (about 6 weeks if you come to school every day) before you can sign up for the Readiness Exam (ORT). If English is not your first language, you will need to study more hours in class to pass the TASC™ in English.
- Work with your counselor to complete the following portfolio requirements.
 1. Resume
 2. Cover Letter
 3. Personal Statement Essay
 4. Position Paper
 5. Individual Learning Plan through the online platform *Plan to Succeed*.**Note:** Contact your counselor about how to log in to your account!
- Pass the TASC™ Readiness Exam.
- Some sites also require 80% minimum of attendance and teacher recommendation to sit for the ORT and TASC™.

Education Opportunities after the TASC™

- **CUNY** – The City University of New York
 - CUNY is a public university, which means it is funded by the government.
 - CUNY offers 2-year Associate’s Degrees and 4-year Bachelor’s Degrees.
 - The yearly tuition for a 2-year CUNY school is \$4,500.
 - The yearly tuition for a 4-year CUNY school is \$6,030.

- **SUNY** - The State University of New York.
 - SUNY is a public university, which means it is funded by the government.
 - SUNY offers 2-year Associate’s Degrees and 4-year Bachelor’s Degrees.
 - The yearly tuition for a 2-year SUNY school is \$17,940, including housing.
 - The yearly tuition for a 4-year SUNY school costs \$22,700, including housing.

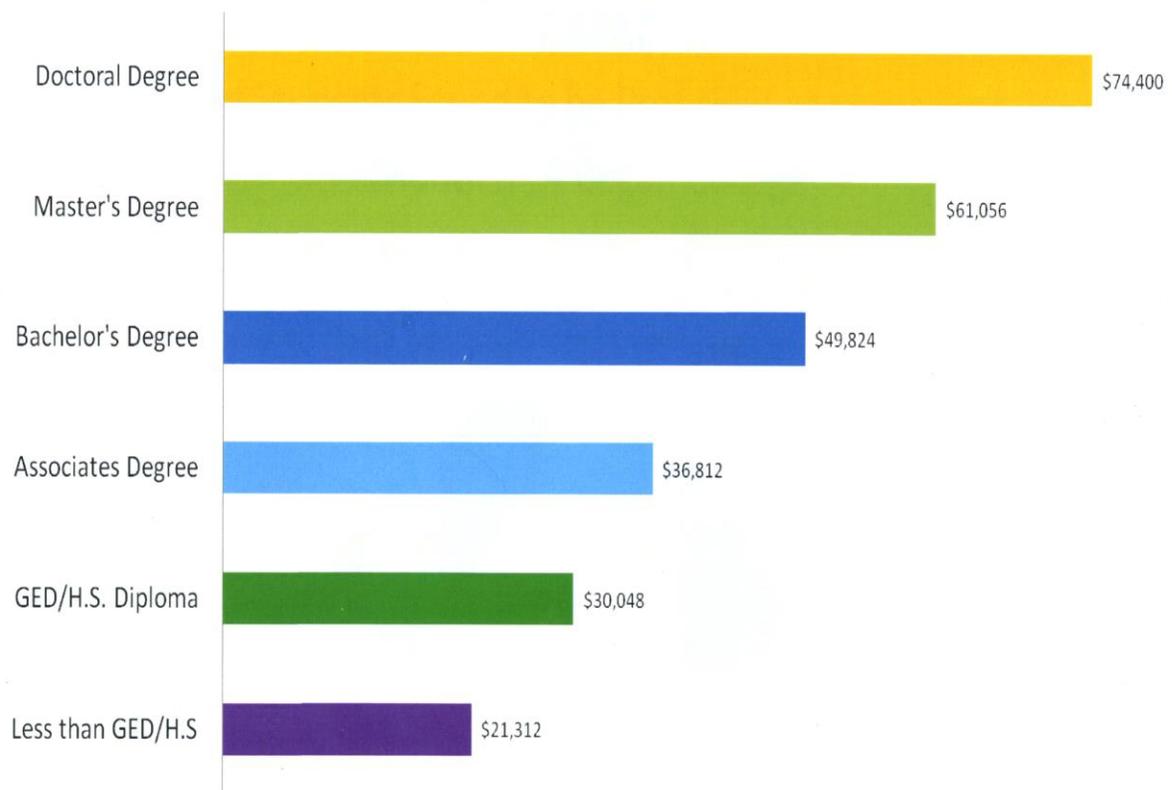
- **Private Colleges**
 - These colleges, unlike public colleges, are **not** funded by the government.
 - There are private universities all over the United States.
 - They can cost on average between \$20,000 - \$50,000 per year or more.

Note about tuition and financial aid: Financial Aid may be available to you. Contact your College and Career Coach for more information.

The Benefits of Education:

College Graduates make an average of 1.4 Million more in a lifetime than someone who only has a TASC™ Diploma or High School Diploma. How would you live your life with an extra 1.4 million?

Estimated Annual Earnings



Pathways to Graduation Student Services

All students have access to people who can help outside of the classroom.

- **School Counselors** – Ask about creating a study plan!
All students will be assigned a primary counselor to support their learning. Services include academic planning, post-secondary planning, and personal-social development.
- **College and Career Coaches** – Ask about applying to college or exploring a career!
Throughout the five boroughs, the College and Career Resource Center staff provides a range of services for students to support and guide their lives after P2G. Services include:
 - Exploring colleges and assisting students with college applications
 - Helping students understand college financial aid options and completing financial aid applications
 - Organizing college campus tours, job shadows, and career and college fairs
 - Facilitating career exploration and job searches
 - Assistance with creating résumés and cover letters
 - Connecting students to vocational training and certification programs
 - Informing parents and guardians about the college and career process
- **Workforce Development Coordinators** – Ask about getting an internship!
The Workforce Development Program provides students with an opportunity to develop and strengthen the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace, through paid internship experiences and professional development. It is also designed to facilitate mentorship between students and supervisors — enabling students to build a professional network.

Behavioral Expectations

1. Maintain good attendance.

- Plan your weekly schedule in advance.
- Arrive to school on time, every day.
- Attend school every day and return to class after lunch.
- If you have an appointment regarding employment, health, or court-related you must bring a letter of verification and speak to your counselor.
- If you are absent for more than a day because you are sick, you must bring a note from a doctor or parent.

2. Demonstrate respect at all times.

- Show respect for all teachers, classmates, and school staff.
- Listen carefully when teachers and classmates are speaking.
- Come willing to work in small groups with other students.
- Focus: do not distract yourself or others during instruction.

3. Do not use cell phones and other devices during class.

- No loud music, games, texting or phone calls allowed in class.
- Emergency phone calls can be made in counselors' offices.

4. Dress for success

- No wearing hats or hoods.
- No short skirts or shorts or low-cut tops.
- Pants should be pulled up completely so that no undergarments are seen.

There will be consequences for students who do not follow the rules: You will see your counselor, APs, and/or principal which can result a warning, a phone call to a parent/guardian, or conference at school.

Create a Pathway to Success!

1. Attend school every day and arrive on time.
2. Set academic goals with your academic counselor.
3. Pay attention and ask questions when you do not understand.
4. Take notes during class and complete homework assignments.
5. Sleep and eat well before taking an exam. Don't cram!
6. Use English: read books, magazines, newspapers, and online articles in English.
7. Develop professional skills – apply for an internship!
8. Make a post-HSE plan with your College and Career Coach.
9. Don't procrastinate – plan your time effectively.
10. Believe in yourself – you can do anything you set your mind to!