

# MCIS eWorkbook



## How to start:

Log on to MCIS from nonprofit Student Assistance Foundation's

Web site, [www.SmartAboutCollege.org](http://www.SmartAboutCollege.org)

## Section 3: Getting Educated

Once you have a general idea about what type of career you would like to pursue, you need to figure out what level of education you will need to attain that goal. More than likely, you will need to enroll in some form of postsecondary education, whether that means attending a two-year or a four-year degree program or apprenticeship.

Admission requirements for postsecondary schools varies by state and school, so students should inquire with their schools of choice to make sure they are taking the correct high school classes to qualify for entrance. In Montana, admission standards to four-year campuses are recommended by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and can be viewed at <http://mus.edu/asa/hscp/index.asp>.

Remember that your ACT and SAT scores do matter. Access three, free ACT and SAT practice tests from the [SmartAboutCollege.org](http://SmartAboutCollege.org) home page.

### Selecting a Program of Study

By clicking on the "Programs of Study" tab, you may search for general information on careers of interest by clicking on the "Clusters Index" which lists broad categories (eg. education, natural resources) or by clicking on the "Titles Index" which lists specific career fields (eg. optometry, zoology).

### Selecting a School

By clicking on the "National School Sort" or "Graduate School Sort" tabs, you will be linked to a series of questions that will help define which schools meet your criteria. Your answers to questions about issues ranging from school size to cost of education help MCIS narrow down your results. Upon completion of the series of questions, MCIS will provide you with a list of schools to consider.

By selecting the "Compare" tab in the "National Schools" or "Montana Schools" sections, you can compare up to three schools side-by-side. Once you find a school or schools in which you are interested in attending, visit the Web sites belonging to the individual schools to determine whether they meet your academic and personal needs. Those visits to the schools' Web sites should be followed up with visits to the actual campuses, if possible.

### Understanding Your Options

Remember, four-year colleges are not your only option when it comes to preparing for your future. Using MCIS, you can search for information about two-year programs, military employment, apprenticeships, trade schools and more.