

# How to Get Into College

1. High School diploma
  - Colleges prefer more challenging classes
2. Grade Point Average of 3.0 or higher (3.5 or higher= \$5000 annual scholarship)
  - Goal to earn "A"s and "B"s
3. Above average SAT or ACT test scores
4. Well-written admissions essays
5. Three letters of recommendation
  - Teachers, counselors, coaches, principals, club leaders, etc.
6. Participation in sports, clubs, and/or community service activities

Earning a bachelor's degree (4-year) is worth over \$1,000,000 in lifetime earnings compared to high school graduates

## Odds of Becoming a Professional Athlete

Football: 1.7% of college players play professionally, only 0.08% of high schoolers

High school players: 1,108,441

College players: 67,887

Draftees: 255

Men's ice hockey: 1.3% of college players play professionally, only 0.1% of high schoolers

High school players: 36,912

College players: 3,944

Draftees: 11

Men's basketball: 1.2% of college players play professionally, only 0.03% of high schoolers

High school players: 545,844

College players: 17,500

Draftees: 48

Women's basketball: 0.9% of college players play professionally, 0.03% of high schoolers

High school players: 438,933

College players: 15,708

Draftees: 32

## Median Earnings and Tax Payments of Full-Time Year-Round Workers Ages 25 and Older, by Education Level, 2008

The bars in this graph show median earnings at each education level. The lighter segments represent the estimated average federal, state, and local taxes paid at these income levels. The darker segments show after-tax earnings.

Note: Taxes paid include federal income, Social Security, Medicare, state and local income, sales, and property taxes.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 Internal Revenue Service, 2008; Davis et al., 2009; calculations by the authors.

