

Schools: Online Degrees

With the growing use of the internet, online schools are becoming more and more popular. Attending classes by the way of the internet is appealing to many busy consumers. While there are many credible schools that offer legitimate online education, there are many others that are simply scams.

The most common scam guarantees you a degree upon payment of a processing fee and within 30 days. The degrees can vary from the most basic such as a high school diploma to the more complex such as a Master's or Doctorate degree. Many online schools may even claim to be accredited, but in reality the accreditation is not recognized.

Some degrees are even offered based entirely on 'life experience'. You should note that these degrees do not hold valid educational experience, and are not acknowledged by legitimate educational institutions. While there are some legitimate schools that offer life experience credit, such credit is determined only after a detailed evaluation process by designated school officials. No legitimate education program offers a degree based entirely on 'life experience' only.

For specialized trade degrees taken to prepare you for employment in a specific field, (e.g. automotive technology, computer technician, etc.) consider checking with potential employers to see if the degree is recognized in that industry. There is little or no value in terms of employment from a 'degree' that is based solely on paying a fee for it.

Be on the lookout for online schools that claim to be affiliated with well known universities or schools. Verify directly with the university or school to ensure the affiliation is legitimate.

If you would like more information on accredited schools and universities you can contact the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the National Center For Education Statistics (through the U.S. Department of Education).

Council for Higher Education Accreditation
One Dupont Circle NW Suite 510
Washington DC 20036-1135
Phone: 202-955-6126
Web: www.chea.org

National Center For Education Statistics
1990 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006, USA
Phone: (202) 502-7300
Web: <http://nces.ed.gov>

Before making any purchase, always be sure to obtain a BBB report as part of your decision making process.