

Masters Degree

In today's society, it is a given that you need a college degree to move ahead in the working world. A Bachelor's degree is preferred; however, a Master's degree will put you in ahead of your peers. A Master's degree in your field can also garner you more money when negotiating a salary. Many students wonder if a Master's degree is worth the time and money that it entails. Well yes, a master's degree is an asset, as long as you actually use it to your advantage.

Why Should You Get a Masters Degree

There are many reasons why you should pursue a Master's degree in your field of study.

- It shows that you have mastered the knowledge and material required for your major.
- It can be a useful negotiating tool when applying for a job. It can help you obtain a larger salary and throughout your career you can use your expertise to your advantage, like when asking for raises.
- Job Security: Even if the company or organization you are working for closes down, your Master's degree can help you obtain a job quicker than those without one. The Master's degree makes yourself more marketable when it comes to the job search.
- Sense of accomplishment: Some people obtain their Master's degree strictly for a sense of educational accomplishment. It shows that they have completed something that others did not do. Maybe they were the first in their family to pursue a master's degree. Or maybe they want to be a role model for their children. Either way, it can be a fulfilling self-accomplishment for many people knowing they are learning additional material, and advancing their career at the same time.

Obtaining Your Masters

There are a few ways in which you can obtain your Master's degree in your field of study. Some schools offer a fast track or accelerated masters program where you enroll for a five-year program of study for your major. The first four years are where you would earn your bachelors degree, and your final year is when you would take classes at an accelerated pace to earn your Master's degree. By doing this, you earn two degrees in less time than the norm.

If you have already graduated with your Bachelor's degree, then the traditional process is taking the GRE (graduate record examination) first. Once you receive your score, you can then apply to schools of your choice for their Master's process. Obtaining your masters can take anywhere from a year and a half to two years if you pursue it full time, or longer if you are pursuing part time.

Some may ask if it is worth getting a master's degree and explain that a Bachelor's degree may be enough in today's job market. Twenty years ago, you could negotiate a reasonable salary with an Associates Degree and an even higher salary with a Bachelor's degree. Now that times have changed, an Associates Degree will not get you too far and a Master's degree is the true asset in the job market. No matter what field of study you pursue, a Master's degree will put you near the top of the job market and you will never regret your decision to pursue your graduate education.

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