Objectives
Students will:

- understand correlation between degree obtainment or job training and employment options
- gain awareness of career options
- gain awareness of education and training options

Materials Needed

- Program of Study information on Minnesota Programs of Study: www.mnprogramsofstudy.org
- Print or online career information resources that list the education requirements for various occupations (use 1-3 resources).
  - CareerOneStop: www.careeronestop.org/ExploreCareers/ExploreCareers.aspx
  - ISEEK: www.iseek.org
  - MCIS: http://mncis.intocareers.org {subscription required}
  - MnCareers publication (www.MnCareers.org)
  - O*NET: www.onetonline.org/find/
- Handout for each team listing 10 occupations

Instructions

1. Split class into teams of 5 people. Give each team a list of occupations. It can be the same list of occupations or each team could have a different list.

2. Have the team members, based on prior knowledge, guess what training level or educational degree would be the minimum required in order to enter that occupation. The teams have 5 minutes to make their guesses for their occupation list.
   - High school diploma
   - On-the-job training
   - Apprenticeship
   - Associates degree
   - Bachelor's degree
   - Master's degree
   - Professional degree (i.e. medical school)
3. After 5 minutes, either have each team reveal their guesses to the class or give them a career information resource to use to check their answers.

4. The team with the most correct responses wins.

**Evaluation of Learning**
- Team members earn points for each correct answer.
- Monitor students’ awareness of education options.
- Monitor students’ awareness of career options.

**Enhanced Learning**
- Name a job and have the students list all of the skills or job duties related to that job. The student or team with the most correct answers wins.
- Discuss why certain occupations require advanced degrees. What types of skills are needed for those jobs? What types of skills are gained from completing a bachelor’s program or graduate program?
- Discuss the attributes of occupations that require a high school degree or short-term on-the-job training (low pay, high turnover, more physical requirements, etc.)
- Discuss where and how people acquire skills to do a job. Use the careers that they've identified as the foundation for the discussion. Other questions could be:
  - How does having a degree prepare a person for a specific job?
  - Does anyone know what people can study at local community or career colleges?
  - What do you think would be hard about on-the-job training? (Personality of trainer/supervisor and his/her ability to teach would be an important factor in successful training.)
- Use the Minnesota Programs of Study website (www.mnprogramsofstudy.org) to look at education and career options.