The benefits of a college education

People with associate degrees earn more money and are more likely to be employed compared to people with only a high school diploma.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEDIAN ANNUAL INCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree $40,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School diploma $33,852</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree 5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School diploma 7.5%</td>
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</table>
Why Choose Roane State?

A college education provides a lifetime of benefits. Studies show that people with a college degree tend to earn more money and are healthier and happier than people without a college degree.

But how do you go to college affordably and get the one-on-one support and encouragement that will help you succeed?

By choosing Roane State.

With Roane State, you can get a quality education without piling up massive student loan debt. Our tuition is about half of four-year schools. Go to Roane State for two years, save money on tuition and then transfer to a four-year college. Or, earn a two-year degree or one-year certificate and enter the workforce. Either way, Roane State is the smart, affordable path to a college education.

With Roane State, you can choose career programs that lead to jobs. Our job placement rate has been over 95 percent for years.

With Roane State, you will have options to take classes when, where and how you want. With nine campuses, Roane State has a location close to your home or work. Because Roane State has plenty of evening classes and online classes, you will have choices that fit your schedule.

With Roane State, you will have faculty who know you personally and care about you. Having 200 students in a class is just not our style. Roane State classes are small, which means students receive one-on-one attention.

Those are practical reasons why you should choose Roane State. Let’s talk about the fun reasons: study abroad trips (France, Peru, Costa Rica, Italy and others), art shows, intramurals, musical performances, theatre, skiing trips, state-of-the-art technology, sports, plenty of spots to chat with friends, and more.

Roane State may be close to home, but it feels different. It feels like a big college—exciting, interesting, memorable.

Learn more about why Roane State is right for you.
Getting Started.

When you have questions about admissions, records and financial aid, you can find answers all in one place. Roane State’s One Stop service keeps you from wandering from office to office to find information you need. Look for the One Stop logo when you visit a Roane State campus.

1. Complete RSCC application online.
   Go to www.roanestate.edu. Click on “Apply Now!” When you reach the Admissions Login page, create an account to get started.

2. Set up your RaiderNet account.
   You will receive information on how to set up your online RaiderNet account, the place where you log in to pay fees, check email, check grades and register for classes. RaiderNet includes an alerts box that shows you any issues you need to take care of, such as submitting a missing form for financial aid. Check your alerts frequently. Your student ID number (R number) is under your name in RaiderNet. Make note of your student ID number. You will need it often as you go through the admissions process.

3. Have your high school transcript or high school equivalency transcript (GED test score or HiSET test score) sent to Roane State.
   Request that your high school or GED/HiSET program send scores directly to the Admissions and Records Office.

4. Have transcripts from all colleges attended sent to Roane State.
   Request that the colleges send transcripts directly to the Admissions and Records Office.

5. If you are under age 21, send official ACT scores to Admissions and Records.
   Please note: If you are under age 21 and your ACT scores from high school are three or more years old, you must take the ACT Residual or the ACT National exam in order to attend. ACT Residual test scores may NOT be used to qualify for the HOPE Scholarship (lottery). ACT Residual scores may be used to qualify for dual enrollment grants for those interested in Roane State’s dual studies program.

6. If you are age 21 or older, take the COMPASS placement test if necessary.
   If you are 21 or older and in a degree program, you must take the COMPASS placement exam unless you have already passed college-level English and math. Visit www.roanestate.edu/testingcenter or contact the Testing Center at (865) 882-4661 to schedule your test.

7. Complete and submit a Hepatitis B health history form if necessary.
   If you are 18 or over and submitted your admissions application online, you do not need to submit the form. For students under 18, the form must be signed by a parent/guardian and mailed to the Admissions and Records Office.

“Everybody at Roane State is open and nice. There are a lot of people here to help you. Everybody wants you to succeed. They want you to do what you are passionate about and succeed in your own personal goals.”

Rachel Burgess
8. Submit required shot records. Students must show proof of two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine and proof of two doses of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine before full-time registration (taking 12 or more semester hours). Check the Roane State website for waivers and exemptions for each vaccine. Submit shot records to the Admissions and Records Office.

9. Submit proof of citizenship or lawful presence in the U.S. Applicants are required to provide proof of U.S. citizenship or proof that they are lawfully present in the United States. To learn more, visit www.roanestate.edu/admissions for details.

10. Schedule and attend a new student orientation session. Go to www.roanestate.edu/nso for the schedule of new student orientations.

11. Register for classes. New students will receive information on how to register for classes. Follow these instructions closely, and do not wait to register. Classes can fill up quickly.

12. Pay fees on time. Each semester, Roane State announces deadlines to pay fees. Miss the deadline, and you could have your class schedule deleted. Students can pay fees through RaiderNet; by phone using major credit or debit cards; by personal check, money order or major credit or debit cards at any Roane State campus; or by mailing payments to the Business Office, 276 Patton Lane, Harriman, TN 37748-5011. Please do not mail cash and please include your student ID number. For details, visit www.roanestate.edu/tuition or contact the Business Office at (865) 882-4515.

Helpful contacts
Student Enrollment and Recruitment
(865) 882-4554 Roane County
(865) 481-2000 ext. 2362 Oak Ridge
email: studentenrollment@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/studentenrollment

One Stop: Admissions and Records
Roane State Community College
276 Patton Lane, Harriman, TN 37748
(865) 882-4526
email: admissionsrecords@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/admissions
Roane State’s Financial Aid Office helps students receive millions of dollars in assistance, and scholarships are available through the Roane State Foundation and other sources.

To get the most possible assistance with your tuition, it is critical that you start your financial aid process early and stay organized. These tips will help you.

**Fill out the FAFSA early:** Everything in the financial aid process starts with what’s called the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Filling it out late, or incorrectly, will cause serious delays in your financial aid. Get it done, and get it right. January 1 is the first date the FAFSA is available for the next academic year. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov. Please note: Roane State’s FAFSA school code is 009914.

**Do your taxes early:** To complete the FAFSA, you will need your income tax returns and perhaps tax returns from spouses or parents. If you fill out the FAFSA before you do your taxes, remember to update the FAFSA after you file your tax return. Choose the IRS Data Retrieval tool in the FAFSA and transfer your completed tax information from the IRS.

**Request a tax return transcript:** Sometimes, students are selected for what’s called verification (a spot check that information they submitted for financial aid is correct). If you are selected, then you’ll need an official IRS Tax Return Transcript. Visit www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript or call (800) 908-9946 to order your transcript.

**Check your RaiderNet account:** Click on Your Financial Aid to check on the status of your aid. Alerts in RaiderNet will warn you if you have financial aid issues you need to address. Check your alerts often.

**Watch out for deadlines:** Check your email and monitor the Roane State website for updates on deadlines. Visit www.roanestate.edu/financialaid.

**Consider work-study options:** Roane State offers opportunities for students to work on campus while they go to school. Visit www.roanestate.edu/financialaid for details.

**Understand benefits for veterans:** Military veterans are eligible for special benefits. Visit www.roanestate.edu/veterans for details.

**Apply for scholarships:** Dozens of scholarships are available through the Roane State Foundation and other sources. Take advantage of these opportunities because every bit of financial aid helps. Go to www.roanestate.edu/scholarships to see what is available.
Helpful Contacts

One Stop: Financial Aid
What they do: Help students with questions about filing for financial aid, HOPE scholarships (lottery), work-study opportunities, etc.
(865) 882-4545
e-mail: financialaid@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/financialaid
www.roanestate.edu/scholarships

Veterans Services
What they do: Assist military veterans with education benefits
(865) 354-3000 ext. 4210
www.roanestate.edu/veterans
Choosing Your Path.

Picking the program that’s right for you is a big decision.

Roane State has two types of credentials meant for students who want to go to work right after they graduate: one-year certificates and two-year Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) programs.

Roane State also has programs for students who want to take two years of classes and then go on to a four-year school to get a bachelor’s degree. They are associate of art (A.A.), associate of science (A.S.), associate of science in teaching (A.S.T.) or associate of fine arts (A.F.A.) programs.

How do you know which program is right for you?
Talk to us. Our Advising Resource Center can help you sort through all the options to pick the program that matches your interests. It is well worth your time to develop your full academic plan before you take your first class. After you start classes, meet regularly with your faculty advisor to make sure you stay on track.

Helpful contact
Advising Resource Center
(865) 882-4597
advising@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/advising

“I decided to attend Roane State first because it is very close to my parents’ house and was affordable for me to go back and forth every day to school. My experience at Roane State helped prepare me to be at the same level of knowledge and skill with my classmates at Tennessee Tech. My classes at Roane State were the foundation for me to be successful in my classes at TTU. I would recommend Roane State to any person as a first choice in their path to a four-year degree.”

Guillermo Neumer
Tennessee Tech student, future civil engineer

www.roanestate.edu
Transfer Pathways

Why Roane State is the right choice: If you want to earn a bachelor’s degree at a four-year college or university, start by taking your first two years at Roane State by enrolling in an Associate of Arts (A.A), Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.), or Associate of Science in Teaching (A.S.T.) degree program. Roane State’s tuition is affordable, which helps students stay out of debt, and Roane State’s small class sizes, outstanding faculty and one-on-one attention give students excellent preparation for four-year schools.

Tennessee Transfer Pathways
Making sure courses transfer is a major concern for community college students. Tennessee Transfer Pathways are your transfer guarantee. Students who successfully complete a Tennessee Transfer Pathway are guaranteed that all courses will count toward their major at a Tennessee public university.*

Academic Plans
Accounting
Art-Studio
Biology
Business Administration
Chemistry
Civil Engineering
Computer Science
Criminal Justice
Early Childhood Education Pre-K–3
Economics-Business
Economics-East Tennessee State University
Economics-Middle Tennessee State University
Economics-University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Economics-University of Memphis
Economics-University of Tennessee
English
Exercise Science
Foreign Language
History
Information Systems
Kinesiology
Mass Communications
Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering
Music (A.F.A.)
Physics
Political Science
Pre-Health Professions
Pre-Nursing
Pre-Occupational Therapy
Pre-Physical Therapy
Psychology
Sociology
Theatre Arts

Additional Degree Options
Associate of Science in Teaching (A.S.T.):
Elementary Education K-6
Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.): Music

Additional academic plans (not yet offered as Tennessee Transfer Pathways) include:

*The Tennessee Transfer Pathways’ prescribed curriculum must be followed exactly to ensure all credit hours transfer. Particular universities or programs may have additional requirements that apply. Admission into a university does not guarantee admission into a particular college or academic program.

Career Pathways

Why Roane State is the right choice:
Graduates from Roane State’s career pathways are well-prepared for jobs. The college’s job placement rate is typically over 95 percent.

Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)
Allied Health Sciences
Business
Accounting
Business Administration
Business Management
Computer Science
Contemporary Management
Criminal Justice
Dental Hygiene Technology
Early Childhood Education
Environmental Health Technology
Financial Services
General Technology
Geographic Information Systems
Health Information Technology
Medical Informatics
Nursing
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Opticianry
Paralegal Studies
Physical Therapist Assistant
Radiologic Technology
Respiratory Therapy
Surgical Technology

Technical Certificates
Computer Science
Diagnosis and Procedural Coding
Early Childhood Education
EMT/Advanced EMT/Paramedic
Geographic Information Systems
Healthcare Documentation Specialist
Massage Therapy
Mechatronics
Pharmacy Technician
Polysomnography
Finish Faster at Roane State

Roane State’s Finish Faster options, such as accelerated classes, help students complete their associate degrees and certificates on time or sooner. By staying on track, students are much more likely to finish college, start their careers and reach their goals. To learn how Roane State can help you Finish Faster, visit www.roanestate.edu/finishfaster.

Close to Home.

With nine campuses, Roane State is never far from your home. Our presence in our communities is part of what makes Roane State special. Each campus has its own vibe, which helps students feel comfortable with college. Roane State also offers online courses and evening classes, which give busy students convenient access to the classes they need.
Earn a bachelor’s degree at Roane State with 2+2 programs.

You can earn a bachelor’s degree while taking all of your classes on a Roane State campus through the college’s 2+2 programs in select majors. In a 2+2 program, students take their first two years at Roane State and then transfer to a university such as Tennessee Tech. Participating 2+2 universities offer their classes at Roane State locations, which means you can get a bachelor’s degree without having to travel outside your community. Ask if a 2+2 program might be right for you.
Student Services.

**Testing Center.** Contact the Testing Center for any tests you need to take for admission to Roane State (the ACT National, ACT Residual or additional placement exams).

(865) 882-4661 Roane County
(865) 481-2000 ext. 2251 Oak Ridge
email: testingcentermain@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/testingcenter

**Counseling, Career, and Disability Services.** Counseling and Career Services was established to aid students in successfully completing their college work and establishing good foundations for future growth. Services include short-term personal counseling for students, career exploration assessments and assistance with the career decision-making process, resources and assistance for test anxiety, and referrals to campus and community resources.

Disability Services is responsible for coordinating reasonable accommodations for students in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended in 2008). Any student who has a disability and would like to request services must contact Counseling, Career, and Disability Services to self-identify and provide appropriate documentation from a qualified professional. If possible, please arrange for accommodations at least three weeks before classes begin. Accommodations are not retroactive, and time is needed to arrange them. Please see the Disability Services Handbook on the Disability Services website.

(865) 882-4546 Roane County
(865) 481-2003 Oak Ridge
www.roanestate.edu/counseling
www.roanestate.edu/careerservices
www.roanestate.edu/disabilityservices
Learning Support.

Many Roane State students take Learning Support classes alongside their college-level courses. These classes do not count toward degrees or certificates but are designed to strengthen students’ skills in math, writing and reading so that students are successful in their college-level work.

Beginning your college journey in Learning Support courses is perfectly normal. Here are three tips for successfully completing Learning Support:

1. Come to class. Attendance is your key to success.
2. Work ahead early and do not get behind.
3. Take advantage of tutors in the Learning Center.

Learn more at www.roanestate.edu/learningsupport.
Roane State is a fun place. The college has four sports (men’s basketball, women’s basketball, baseball and softball), and students can participate in intramurals. The Roane State Playmakers offer a variety of theatre productions, and musical opportunities are available in Concert Choir, Jazz Band, Stage Band, Bluegrass Band or Celebration Singers.

Each campus has an activities board that plans fun events, and campuses include areas to play games, have a snack, watch television or just chat with friends.

Roane State even sends students abroad. Through Roane State’s international education program, students have visited Italy, Ecuador, France, England and other countries. Scholarships are available for study abroad opportunities.
Tips and Advice.

Applying to college, getting financial aid and registering for classes can feel overwhelming, but these tips will help you manage the process of becoming a college student.

1. Keep a copy of everything: After you fill out a form, make a copy and keep it.

2. Get the name of the person you talk to: When you talk to a college representative about a question or problem, politely ask for the person's name and jot it down in a notebook. Write down the date and a short summary of the information you were told. Keeping this record will help you stay organized and help college representatives better serve you.

3. Start early and proactively follow up: If you develop the habit of getting paperwork turned in well before deadlines, then you will minimize the potential for problems.

4. Ask questions: It’s perfectly OK if you do not understand something. Please ask questions.

5. Check your email: Check your @roanestate.edu email and your personal email for messages from Roane State.

6. Check your RaiderNet alerts: The alerts box in RaiderNet will show you items you need to address. Check your alerts frequently.

7. Make a plan: Think through what you want to do and the classes you need to take to get there. Talk to Roane State advisors and develop your personal roadmap.
“Dual studies is worth the effort. I felt prepared for college because I had taken college classes at Roane State. If I had any problems writing my essays, I felt very comfortable going to my Roane State teachers and asking for help. With the math, I could send a picture of a problem to my professor, and he would help me out that night. At bigger schools, professors do not even know your name.”

Sarah Rose
Roane County High School graduate

Earn college credit in high school

High school students can earn college credit and high school credit at the same time through dual studies classes and even receive funds to help with the costs. For more information about dual studies at Roane State, visit www.roanestate.edu/dualstudies or call (865) 882-4504.
Again, Why Choose Roane State?

We have talked about many reasons why Roane State is a good choice for you. We are affordable and close to home. We offer plenty of support for students.

But, let’s talk about a few more reasons.

Our faculty love to teach, and you will be taught by a faculty member, not a graduate student. Many of our faculty have doctorates. Most Roane State professors worked in the field they teach so they understand the real-world applications of what you will study in the classroom. Roane State professors are kind, encouraging, funny and sincerely devoted to your success. You will stay in touch with some of your professors years after you leave Roane State.

Our library staff will leap over the reference desk to connect you to great information for your research projects. Roane State’s tutors will work with you until you master a difficult subject.

And, on our small, local campuses, you are connected to higher education across the entire state. We talk all the time with our colleagues at Tennessee Tech, the University of Tennessee, East Tennessee State, Middle Tennessee State and many others. We are all connected, and that connection provides big-time opportunities for you.

We look forward to welcoming you to Roane State.

Contact us to get started, or apply online.
Student Enrollment and Recruitment
(865) 882-4554 Roane County
(865) 481-2000 ext. 2362 Oak Ridge
email: studentenrollment@roanestate.edu
www.roanestate.edu/studentenrollment
“I never thought that graduating was going to be possible for me. I always thought I was going to be stuck doing what I was doing. It’s a great thing knowing I was able to set the example for my children to follow. It’s amazing that with Roane State’s help, I am the first in my family to graduate from college.”

Kevin Wiggins
Roane State graduate