

Lesson 13

Higher education for Bahamians

Thousands of students attend the College of The Bahamas in Oakes Field, New Providence, and in Freeport, Grand Bahama. Many of them go there after they have graduated from high school. They are young and eager to learn special skills before they join the country's workforce.

Students can obtain an undergraduate degrees in Education, Business Administration, Communication, Culinary and Hospitality Management, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Technology, Law, Nursing, Agriculture Science, and many other disciplines. Persons can also earn the graduate degrees in Business Studies, Education, and several others.

Education:	Students are trained as teachers over four years. This includes learning how to teach their subjects.
Nursing:	Students are trained in the basic skills in nursing, midwifery and first aid.
Business: Administration:	Students are trained how to manage and set up a business and balance books and set up a business.
Agricultural Science:	Students are trained in the care and management of soil, crops, planting season, irrigation and fertilization.

Other students are adults, some are already employed, some run their own businesses, and some from other countries come to study here. This **higher education** will help them to do their jobs better and to earn a higher wage.

The Bahamas government knows that higher education is important because the country needs a well-trained workforce to do the jobs in a developing country. Many students do well at school, but not everyone has the money to pay for higher education. So the government helps by paying some of the fees for students to study at the College of the Bahamas or abroad.



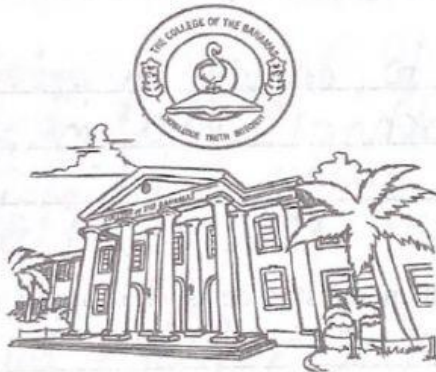
Many graduates of our high schools and the College of the Bahamas go abroad for higher education. This is important because we are a small country and do not have all the resources we need for a complete education. For example,

students who want a career in medicine, agriculture, teaching, or law usually, go to the **University of the West Indies**. The main **campus** of the university is in Mona, Jamaica, but there are also campuses in Trinidad and Barbados.

Students from the other Caribbean countries who are seeking a higher education in tourism and hotel management may attend the **Hotel Training School**, which is part of the College of The Bahamas. When you leave high school, you might want to become a manager of one of our large hotels. If you do, you can study for a degree on the COB's campus.

Businesses and other organization, both in this country and abroad, help too. They provide **scholarships** to help some students to get a higher education. Students who are given such help are, usually, expected to return to The Bahamas to work for a given length of time.

If you want to go on to higher education, either in The Bahamas or abroad, you need to do well at your primary and secondary schools. Students should read many books and develop good study habits. Good students listen to their teachers and parents and do not spend all their free time watching television. It is important to learn all you can while you are in primary school. This is the first step towards higher education.



1. Where can students go in The Bahamas for higher education? [1]

2. Why is higher education so important in our country? [2]

3. Name ONE country to which Bahamians can travel to study. [1]

4. Make a list of FOUR things necessary to make the first step towards higher education. [4]

5. How does the government assist students who do well in school? [2]

6. Can adults attend The College of The Bahamas? Write yes or no. [1]

7. Provide information from the passage to support your answer. [2]

8. According to the passage, why do some students go abroad for higher education? [2]