

SOCIAL STUDIES NOTES

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WORKING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

HIGHER EDUCATION in THE BAHAMAS

Most than 2000 students attend the University 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 a degree in Education, Business Administration, Nursing or in Agricultural Science.

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, mid wifery and first aid

BUSINESS: Students are trained how to manage and set up a business, balance books, Administration and other managerial skills.

Agricultural Students are trained in the care and management of soil, crops, science: planting seasons, irrigation, and fertilization.

Other students are adults who are already employed or who run their own businesses, and some come from other countries 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 (tuition) for students to study at the University of The Bahamas, or abroad.

Many graduates of our high schools and the University 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 (UWI). The main **campus** of this university is in Mona, Jamaica, but there are also campuses in Trinidad and Barbados.

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Students from the other Caribbean countries who are seeking higher education in tourism and hotel management may attend the Hotel Training School, which is part of the University 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 U.B. campus. Business and other organizations, both in the 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 who read many books 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 a higher education.

