







## IT'S OFF TO WORK WE GO!

Is your daughter thinking about a job in real estate after high school?

**HOMESCHOOLING FOR THE MARKETPLACE, THE HOME FRONT, OR THE MILITARY**

Is your son considering enlisting in the military as soon as he graduates? Does your daughter envision perfecting her homemaking skills while planning to become a wife and mother someday? No matter where your high schooler is headed following graduation—to the marketplace, the home front, or the military—you can design a high school program that will uniquely equip him or her to achieve those goals! This brochure contains some ideas and resources to get you started, and you'll find even more resources and links on our online resource page: [www.hslda.org/highschool/offtowork/links](http://www.hslda.org/highschool/offtowork/links). The  indicates related links on the resource page.

Statistics vary, but in general, around 35% of high school students will not go on to college after graduating, instead embarking on a variety of satisfying and interesting endeavors (Linda Lee, *Success Without College*, 2001). If your teen is one of these, use the high school years to formulate a plan that provides him with knowledge, abilities, and skills for whatever path he takes after graduation. The following guidelines can help:

- Begin at the end! Develop a high school program, including courses that are helpful to your teen's future goals. Refer to HSLDA's high school brochure, "Developing a Plan for High School." 
- Choose a variety of electives and extracurricular activities to round out your student's high school program.
- Keep records and create a transcript. See HSLDA's brochure, "Recordkeeping for High School." 
- Award a diploma and celebrate your teen's graduation. 

**BECKY COOKE**  
HSLDA High School Coordinator

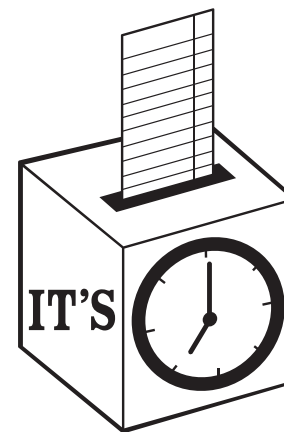
**DIANE KUMMER**  
HSLDA High School Coordinator

### NEED HELP WITH HIGH SCHOOL?

In 2004, inspired by the increasing number of questions from parents wondering if they could homeschool their children through high school, HSLDA hired high school coordinators Becky Cooke and Diane Kummer. Becky and Diane graduated their own children from high school at home, and they bring a wealth of experience and friendly advice to share with families who are navigating these challenging, yet exciting years. We're excited to see how this service to our members has extended to the homeschool movement as a whole, through the Homeschooling Thru High School website and publications.



© 2008 Home School Legal Defense Association  
One Patrick Henry Circle • Purcellville, VA 20132  
540-338-5600 • [www.hslda.org/contactstaff](http://www.hslda.org/contactstaff)  
[www.hslda.org/highschool](http://www.hslda.org/highschool)



**HOMESCHOOLING FOR THE MARKETPLACE, OFF TO WORK WE GO!**  
**THE HOME FRONT, OR THE MILITARY**

High school services available to HSLDA members.  
To join HSLDA, visit [hslda.org](http://hslda.org) or call 540-338-5600.



# HSLDA

## THE MARKETPLACE

If your high schooler is planning to embark on a career in the marketplace following graduation, you'll need to help him lay out a comprehensive plan. Together with your student, explore the many different career categories, taking time to talk about your teen's strengths, weaknesses, and preferences to ascertain which careers might be most suitable. You may even want to look into career testing or counseling.

### *Examples of Career Categories*

- Animal-related occupations
- Art and design
- Beauty and physical health
- Business and clerical
- Consulting and counseling
- Crafts and trades
- Entrepreneurial opportunities
- Food and drink industry
- Home maintenance/repair
- Legal/law enforcement
- Media and entertainment
- Medical/health
- Technology
- Travel/tourism

### *Career Training Considerations*

- Is any certification or licensing required?
- Must accreditation be received from a professional organization, from a state, or from the training company?
- What internship/apprenticeship opportunities are available in this field?
- What is the long-term job outlook or advancement capacity of this career?

### *Getting a Job*


- Research the field.
- Develop a resumé.

## THE MARKETPLACE

*(continued)*

- Develop a network of contacts in that field.
- Practice interview skills.

### *Resources*

Check out the many helpful books and online resources we've compiled on careers, internships, vocations, and trade schools. 

## THE HOME FRONT


Many fulfilling opportunities are available for high school graduates who choose to stay home or become self-employed following high school graduation. These pursuits can last for a short season or develop into a lifetime endeavor. Some opportunities will be income-generating, while others will entail volunteer service. If your high schooler is interested in these types of pursuits, then plan to use the high school years to teach him or her the skills needed to succeed.

### *Some Home Front Opportunities*

- Full-time ministry or mission work
- Caregiving position such as elder care/companion, doula, or hospice care
- Joining a family business
- Home management
- Childcare
- Public service

### *Resources*

Find resources and suggestions for vocation, missions, volunteering, and more online. 

 For our online resource list, go to [www.hslda.org/highschool/offtowork/links](http://www.hslda.org/highschool/offtowork/links).

## THE MILITARY

Enlisting in the military is a worthy and viable path and benefits all Americans by protecting our freedom. We applaud all homeschoolers who choose to serve our country and thank them for their dedication.

### *The Military's Homeschool Enlistment Policy*

- Homeschoolers are enlisted as Tier 1 if they score 50 or above on the Armed Forces Qualifying Test.
- Homeschool enlistment documentation:
  - A high school diploma and transcript
  - Verification of compliance with any state homeschool statute
- HSLDA will assist its members as necessary.

### *Tier 1 Enlistment Benefits*


Benefits vary among different branches of the military.

- Possible cash bonuses for enlistments of three or more years
- Eligible for promotions early in the process
- Access to the Army College Fund
- High score on the Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery Test may provide additional opportunities for training and additional job choices
- Monthly salary and 30 days leave per year

### *Prior to Enlisting*

- Pursue a strong high school academic program.
- Participate in extracurricular activities: *sports, community/church involvement, skill building opportunities, overseas/cross-cultural experience.*
- Become an independent learner.
- Develop motivational skills, accept responsibility, cultivate respect for authority, and develop perseverance.

### *Resources*

- HSLDA's Homeschooling Thru High School website—military section 
- HSLDA's U.S. Military Issues Library 