# Types of Degrees

There are a variety of degrees and certificates available to you in your post-high school career. Some of these include:

### **Certificates**

Certificates are similar to technical programs in that they are geared towards a student interested in a shorter program compared to the typical 4-year higher education, and who are interested in being prepared for a specific kind of work force or specialty training. Students can earn certificates in a variety of disciplines including Veterinary Technician, Web Design, or Paralegal. Certificates can often be earned by attending a two year college or a Technical School.

# **Associate Degree**

An Associate degree is an Undergraduate degree that is typically a 2-year academic program, compared to the 4-year Bachelor program. A student who earns an Associate degree often moves on to complete a Bachelor's, or will enter the work force in their discipline.

## Bachelor's Degree (B.A. or B.S.)

The Bachelor's degree is the most common academic path thought of when discussing college. Typically completed in four full-time years, the Bachelor's Degree is the highest degree of an Undergraduate education. Students pursuing a Bachelor's in any area of study will often find themselves choosing between public or private colleges or universities.

# Master's Degree

A Master's degree is awarded for the next level of study after a Bachelor's, with a greater concentration in an area of study. A student with a Master's degree will have a higher understanding and greater mastery of their area of study. Master's programs can take one to six years of study, as they are earned independently as well as on your way through a Doctorate program.

# **Doctorate Degree**

A Doctorate degree is the highest degree earned and depending on your discipline, can give you the ability to teach at higher level institutions. The capabilities that come with earning a Doctorate vary by profession.