Not getting into a degree course should not be seen as the end of the road as vocational courses can also pave way for a bright career

Straight to Work

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MOST of us are brought up with the firm belief that college is the only way to be a successful person. But college degrees do not guarantee a job, they just give rise to an academic inflation where too many degrees holders end up chasing too few jobs. There are many ways in which you can overcome and override this academic inflation and 'theoretical warming'.

No doubt an academic degree is a passport to success and gives you an advantage in your career quest, but lacking an educational degree does not mean you will not succeed; a degree is only an achievement and not indicative of your skills and ambitions. History is replete with instances of people who have succeeded, some far beyond even general standards, without having a college or even a high school degree. Some vocational courses you can take up after Class XII:
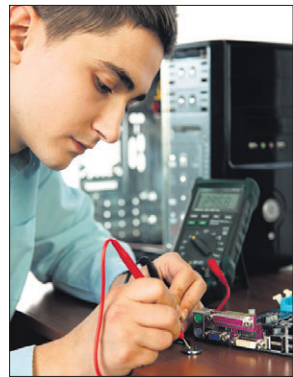
HARDWARE AND NETWORKING

In case you want to make a career in the field of computers, you can go in for short-term courses in Hardware and Networking. You will learn about functioning, configuration and troubleshooting of hardware components, including Keyboard, Mouse, Storage Devices: FDD, HDD, CDROM, BIOS, RAM, CMOS, Processors, Motherboards, Hands-on PC Assembling, and installation of printers etc. Students can also take up advanced courses like MCSE and CCNA.

There is no requirement for a basic educational qualification for entering to this field. However, an intermediate level of education is generally preferred. The duration of these courses ranges from three months to one year.

Career prospects

Hardware professionals and network administrators are in great demand in IT, software and web hosting companies. The role of a hardware engineer/network administrator is very important in these sectors. After taking up these courses, you can become a Network Engineer, Security Analyst, Configuration manager and DBA (Database Analyst). The salary in IT and software sector is generally high, as a fresher, you can expect salary somewhere between₹5000-₹8, 000 per month. However, with having 1-2 years of experience one can earn ₹15, 000 or more.

COURSE CHECK

- Advanced Diploma in Hardware Maintenance
- Advanced Diploma in Internet Applications
- Diploma in Internet Applications
- Diploma in Cyber Security
- Diploma in Hardware and Networking Technology
- Diploma in Internet and Intranet Security
- Diploma in Networking and Internet Application
- Diploma in Hardware Maintenance
- Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Networking/Hardware and Maintenance
- Post Graduate Diploma in Hardware Maintenance and Networking (PGDHMN)

Certificate courses

- Certificate course in Computer Hardware
- Certificate course in Computer Hardware and Networking
- Certificate course in Internet Applications
- Certificate in Computer Networking and Internet (CCNI)
- Certified Wireless Security Professional (CWSP)
- Check Point Certified Security Administrator (CCSA)
- Check Point Certified Security Expert (CCSE)
- Cisco Certified Network Administrator (CCNA)
- Cisco Certified Network Associate Security (CCNA Security)

Where to study

- Indian Institute of Hardware and Technology (IIHT), Bangalore
- B.S.S. College of Management & Technology, Jaipur
- The Delhi Institute of Computer Education (DICS)
- Supersoft Solution Provider, Bangalore
- Zealous Computer Centre (ZCC),Chandigarh
- Institute of Hardware Technologies (IHT), Delhi

MOBILE REPAIR

One of the fastest growing niche segment these days is Wireless and Mobile Technology. The mobile phone companies whether GSM or CDMA, are providing lucrative services at affordable prices to the consumers.

In this fluid technology, equipment like handsets, computers, laptops, net books, palmtops, personal digital assistants, tablets, smart phones with GPS devices and wireless terminals are delivered with Wi Fi, Bluetooth, 3G/4G services, virtual private networks and other advanced communications technologies. This has created a need for jobs for mobile repair.

Courses and institutes

Britco and Bidco Institute of Mobile Phone Technology Pvt Ltd, Delhi; Hi-Tech Institute of Mobile Repairing; India Training Institute, with centres in Delhi, Ludhiana, Jaipur and Indian Institute of Technical Education, New Delhi are some institutes that impart training in repairing phones of GSM & CDMA handsets by using highly sophisticated instruments. These institutes offer career-oriented courses targeted at the wireless telecom repair and maintenance segment.

These courses would make you an industry-ready candidate rather than a certificate holder. The course curriculum is based on accurate theory and practical tips to make you capable of repairing any mobile phone handsets of GSM, CDMA or any other new convergent products.
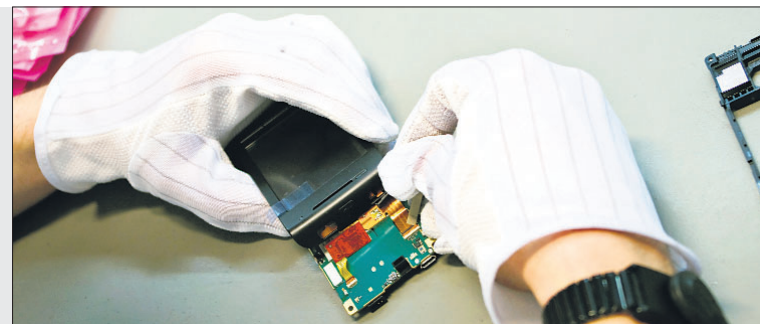
The training programmes are on chip-level service and repair of mobile phones and covers areas like soldering, de soldering of components etc. You would also be trained on chip-level servicing of components, power amplifiers, audio I.C, CPU, power supply I.C , charging control, R.F signal processor, SMD components replacement and also rectify hardware problems like battery charging, water damage, network display, ringer, buzzer, audio incoming and outgoing, sim card insertion etc. besides software problems like hanging, network, unlocking, flashing software like USR, twister, tornado, griffin, problems related to camera and bluetooth.

Employment opportunities

After pursuing the certifications, you can either successfully set up your own business or seek employment with MNCs like Nokia, LG, Samsung, Sony, BPL, Thomson, Haier, TATA, Motorola etc.