

EDUCATION

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Educational Resources

Rationale

Education is a key ingredient in finding and retaining work and in being self-reliant. Elder Russell M. Nelson said, "In the Church, obtaining an education and getting knowledge are a religious responsibility. We educate our minds so that one day we can render service of worth to somebody else" ("Focus on Values," Liahona, Feb. 2013, 54; New Era, Feb. 2013, 4; lds.org/liahona/2013/02/focus-on-values). With appropriate education, individuals are more likely to find meaningful work and be better able to sufficiently provide for their personal and family needs. It also provides more opportunities for service both within and outside of the Church. Taking advantage of available educational resources can help an individual be successful in his or her career and life.

Objective

Increase Deseret Industries associates' awareness of educational resources and opportunities. Then help them use these resources to decide what type of education they would like to pursue as they plan their career and life.

Potential Discussion Items

- In weekly conversations with the Deseret Industries associate, make him or her aware of educational opportunities and funding through the Deseret Industries program.
- Follow up with the Deseret Industries associate on schooling plans, homework, due dates, and so on.
- Discuss available educational programs with the Deseret Industries development counselor.
- With the Deseret Industries associate, meet with the development counselor about educational resources available in the area or online.
- Provide the Deseret Industries associate with resources to research education possibilities.
- Help the Deseret Industries associate understand the importance of education by giving examples of the benefits of education or referring him or her to information that would motivate him or her to want to enroll in a program.
- Provide the Deseret Industries associate with information about career assessments and other testing that he or she can do with the Deseret Industries development counselor.
- Challenge the Deseret Industries associate to talk to people in the educational program he or she is interested in, conduct an informational interview, or talk to a school about the programs they offer.

Suggested Resources

- Local and university libraries: Look online on your city's website, on university websites, or in a phone book for educational opportunities near you. Most library resources are free if you are a resident of the city or county or a student at the college or university. There is usually a simple application process to get a library card. Sometimes there is a small, reason-



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able fee for some library services and resources.



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- Career counseling centers at local colleges and universities: Look online or in the phone book for information about colleges and universities near you. College and university career counseling centers usually provide free assistance in career and education planning to all who are interested, including those who are not currently students. The link below can get you started with some useful career and educational planning tools:

<http://www.careeronestop.org/EducationTraining/EduTraining.aspx>.

- LDS Employment Resource Services: Look online at ldsjobs.org for helpful resources and articles about education, or visit a center near you to speak with a skilled career coach. Review the articles below for additional information:

<https://www.ldsjobs.org/ers/ct/articles/finding-the-best-school?lang=eng>.

<https://www.ldsjobs.org/ers/ct/articles/furthering-your-education?lang=eng>.

<https://www.ldsjobs.org/ers/ct/articles/how-does-ers-help-people-obtain-education?lang=eng>.

- Online collections of books: Millions of books are available for free online. The following sites may be a good start:

<http://eresources.loc.gov>: the Library of Congress online resources site.

<https://archive.org>: a private archive website with the vision of universal access to all knowledge.

www.gutenberg.org: free e-book versions of thousands of texts in the public domain; audio and PDF versions are also available.

- Free online courses: The following websites offer free learning online:

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org>: free courses in technology basics, living in the online world, Microsoft Office, work and career skills, and other essential skills, with new courses added frequently.

www.khanacademy.org: free courses in math, science, economics, finance, humanities, computing, and test preparation, with new courses added frequently; also provides links to partnering organizations.

www.edx.org: great online courses, most of which are free after registration, from the world's best universities; try a college-level course or get an expert introduction to a specific topic.

<http://www.udacity.com>: technology-related and introductory-type courses on many subjects.

<http://www.coursera.org>: an education platform that partners with top universities and organizations worldwide to offer free online courses to all.

<http://ed.ted.com>: recorded speeches and lectures with interactive learning opportunities from experts in many fields, including:

the arts

business and economics

design, engineering, and technology

health

literature and language

mathematics



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philosophy and religion
psychology
science and technology
social studies
teaching and education
thinking and learning

www.apple.com/apps/itunes-u: access to free courses from leading institutions in a variety of subjects, available for iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch.

- High school completion programs: Look online or in a phone book for local options for high-school-level tutoring and high school completion. Official information and resources for the high school equivalent GED test can be found at <https://ged.com>.
- College preparation: <https://pathway.lds.org>.
- Financial aid: Many people are eligible for financial aid from the federal or state government or other sources to help pay for eligible courses and programs. Individuals can apply for student loans at a subsidized interest rate and may qualify for a Pell Grant, which does not have to be repaid if the program is completed successfully.

Student aid eligibility: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility>.

Types of aid available: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/types>.

Applying for aid: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.

Financial aid resources by state or general categories:

<http://www.careerinfonet.org/crl/library.aspx?LVL2=19&LVL3=y&CATID=45&PostVal=1>.

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/resources>.

Handout

Navigating Education Options

