

# **Education - Types of Degrees**

## **Types of Degrees Offered at Postsecondary Institutions**

### **Certificate                    1 year**

Earned at a community college, technical college or even a four year college.

### **Associate's Degree (A.A. degree)   2 years**

Degree typically earned at a community college or a technical college.

Requires 60-70 semester credit hours.

Can be a transfer degree to a 4 year college, or a terminal degree.

## **Undergraduate Degree**

### **Bachelor's Degree    (B.A. or B.S. degree) 4 years**

(also called an undergraduate or baccalaureate degree)

Degree earned at a college or university

120 semester hours or credit, or its quarter hour equivalent

## **Graduate Degrees**

### **Master's Degree (M.A., M.S., etc.) 1-2 years after Bachelor's degree**

30-60 semester credit hours or its quarter hour equivalent

### **Ph.D. (also called a Doctoral Degree) Bachelor's/Master's + 2-5 years**

### **Professional Degree            Minimum 6 academic years of college**

Graduate degrees in the fields of law, business, dentistry, medicine, veterinary, pharmacy, optometry are often referred to as professional degrees.