

When You Visit

Before you decide which school is right for you, **go for a visit**. Ask the school if you can see a class. Many schools will let you do this for free.

By visiting the school, you can see first-hand if the school offers a good learning environment, experienced instructors, and classes that will help you get the job you want.

While you are at the school:

Check out the campus/building and classrooms

- ✓ Is the location easy to get to from home/work?
- ✓ Do you feel comfortable and safe?
- ✓ Does the school provide bus service for the students?

Sit in on a class

- ✓ **Observe:**
 - The number of students vs. number of teachers (the fewer students per teacher the better)
 - If the instructors understand and answer student questions
 - If students are engaged or bored or confused
- ✓ **Introduce yourself to the instructor. Ask:**
 - What makes some students successful and others not
 - For a copy of the syllabus (overview of the class) and any handouts used in the course
- ✓ **Meet some of the students. Ask:**
 - If they are learning what they need to know to get a job
 - If the instructors are easy to understand
 - If they have had any problems with the school or instructors
 - What they like most and least about the school or course

New Yorkers have many training options. You can go to classes at the Department of Education, City University of New York (CUNY), public libraries, community organizations, Workforce1 Career Centers, and more. Visit www.nyc.gov/trainingguide or call 311 and ask about free and low-cost training.