



# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES, NOW WHAT?

What's next and where does the journey lead?

These past weeks I witnessed a lot of joy on the faces of parents, grandparents, and especially on the faces of new graduates. Whether it was high school seniors exiting the doors for the last time before heading off to the next step on their educational ladder, or graduates of our Community Colleges crossing the stage to receive their Associates Degree or Certificate, or finally, those University graduates ready to pursue the career of their dreams, all of them have achieved a major milestone in their lives.

Now what? After the excitement subsides, what is the next step? Many are asking that question this week. If it's the pursuit of higher education, where am I going, and how do I pay for it? If it's pursuit of the first "real job" in the profession of my choosing, how do I find a job, with the right company, and then, convince them that I'm the right person for that job?

ARPI provides business and community coaching throughout the United States. If you have a business question for Jack, email him at [jack.newcomb@totalcsi.com](mailto:jack.newcomb@totalcsi.com). You can also visit the ARPI website, [www.advancingruralprosperity.com](http://www.advancingruralprosperity.com).

Finally, for those who still dream about starting their own business, where do I start the process, and where do I go to get the information I need.

All of these scenarios are playing out right in front of us whether we are paying attention or not. It's both exciting and scary, but most importantly, it's the beginning of the rest of their young lives. Remember, we were all at that place once; filled with hope, excitement, and yes, a little fear of the unknown.

Commencement is over, yet the journey has just begun. Congratulations and best of luck to all of you!



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