

Uddannelsesvalg efter folkeskolen



I'm a 16 year old person living in Denmark. I'm born in Denmark, but my parents are from The United States of America. I just finished primary school in Denmark and am now considering what my next step should be. I'm fluent in danish.
What educational path would you recommend for me?

That's a great question, and it's good you're thinking carefully about your future. Since you're 16 and have just completed Danish primary school (*folkeskolen*), your next step typically depends on your interests, academic strengths, and career goals. Here's a breakdown of your options in Denmark—and a few international angles, given your American background:

🇩🇰 Typical Danish Education Paths After Primary School

After 9. klasse, you usually choose between **gymnasiale uddannelser** (academic upper secondary education) and **erhvervsuddannelser** (vocational education and training).

1. Gymnasiale Uddannelser (Academic Pathways – 3 years)

These are for students who want to go to university later:

- **STX (Almen studentereksamen):** Broad academic program – good if you're unsure what you want yet.
- **HHX (Higher Commercial Examination):** Focus on business, economics, and marketing.
- **HTX (Higher Technical Examination):** Focus on science, tech, engineering.
- **HF (Higher Preparatory Examination):** Shorter (2 years), more flexible, less theoretical – often used if you're aiming for certain professions or want to move on faster.

✅ Recommended if you want to go to university in Denmark or abroad.

2. Erhvervsuddannelser (Vocational Training – 2 to 5 years)

Hands-on education leading directly to work in trades (electrician, chef, hairdresser, etc.). Often includes apprenticeships.

✅ Recommended if you prefer practical work and want to start earning sooner.

🌐 Considering Your U.S. Background

Because you have American citizenship (likely), you have unique opportunities. Here are some options to consider:

1. Study Abroad (Now or Later)

- **International Baccalaureate (IB):** Offered at some Danish schools – a globally recognized academic program in English. Good if you're considering studying in the U.S. or other countries.
- **Exchange Programs:** You could do a year abroad in the U.S. or another country during upper secondary.
- **American High School:** You *could* move to the U.S. and finish high school there (though this is a big step).

2. University in the U.S.

If you eventually want to go to college in the U.S., doing IB or STX with strong English and relevant subjects will prepare you well. Keep an eye on GPA equivalency and SAT/ACT if required.

What to Think About When Choosing

Ask yourself:

- Do I enjoy academic subjects or more hands-on tasks?
- Am I interested in business, science, humanities, arts, or something else?
- Do I want to study in Denmark, or could I see myself going to university abroad?

Example Scenarios

Interest	Suggested Path	Why
Broad academic interest, unsure future plans	STX	Keeps all doors open
Business and entrepreneurship	HHX	Prepares you for business school or working in companies
Tech, IT, engineering	HTX	Strong foundation for technical university
Want to work in a skilled trade	Vocational training (EUD)	Leads to job quickly, earns while learning
Thinking about international university	IB or STX with high English level	Globally recognized and prepares you for U.S./UK unis

My Recommendation

Based on what you've shared:

- **If you like school, are curious, and might study at university (in Denmark or abroad):**
→ Choose **STX** or **IB** (if offered near you).
- **If you prefer practical learning or want to work earlier:**
→ Explore **vocational education** in areas that interest you.

If you want, I can help you compare STX vs IB programs near your area in Denmark, or help sketch a longer-term plan depending on what kind of job or lifestyle you're aiming for.