HOW TO CHOOSE A CAREER OR COLLEGE MAJOR

You may be more likely to enjoy earning a college degree and tend to have a higher degree of job satisfaction by identifying a college major or career that is in line with your values, interests, abilities, and personality type.

1. Define your VALUES.
   Values define your character. How would you act in most situations when others aren’t looking?
   Below are some values to get you started:
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compassion</th>
<th>Justice</th>
<th>Financial Security</th>
<th>Reliability</th>
<th>Flexibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Courtesy</td>
<td>Loyalty</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Fun</td>
<td>Humility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truth</td>
<td>Freedom</td>
<td>Respect for others</td>
<td>Humor</td>
<td>Perseverance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honesty</td>
<td>Dignity</td>
<td>Empathy</td>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Kindness</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

   Need help defining your values?  Tip: Enroll in “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” through the Office of Lifelong Learning (724-938-5840).

2. Define your EXPECTATIONS and separate your needs from your wants. Define what you absolutely need to have for job satisfaction as opposed to what you would like to have.

3. Define the type of ENVIRONMENT in which you can envision yourself working. Do you see yourself working outside or in an office setting? Do you like a change of scenery every day or enjoy travel? Are you interested in working with people, data, or things (i.e. machines)?

4. Define the SKILLS you currently possess and those you are willing and able or interested to acquire. Consider your strengths. Are you: adaptable, organized, decisive, a leader, a team player, analytical, technically inclined, compassionate, artistic, enterprising?

5. Define the EXPERIENCE you already have or are willing to acquire. Have you ever helped a friend with a math problem, enjoyed conducting an experiment for class, taken care of a child, written your thoughts or poetry in a journal, designed a bulletin board or a web site?

6. Define your HOBBIES and other INTERESTS. What would you do, even if you weren’t paid?

7. JOB SHADOW someone who does something you may be interested in doing. Need help finding someone to talk to? Visit COLLEGE CENTRAL NETWORK on the Career Services web site.

8. Begin your CAREER ADVANTAGE PROGRAM on the Career Services web site.

9. Make an appointment with a CAREER COUNSELOR for further guidance.