

10 TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR YOU

How does a person know what career to work toward? There is no perfect answer, but the following 10 tips will get you off to a good start.

- 1 Get to know yourself** – Complete more than one self-assessment test.
- 2 Identify your strengths and weaknesses** – What do you do well and what do you not do well?
- 3 Develop an inventory of careers** – Write down some careers that might interest you.
- 4 Research different careers** – Talk to others and use the Internet.
- 5 Write the pros and cons** – List positives and negatives about the careers that interest you.
- 6 Network** – Discuss your ideas with others.
- 7 Talk with people who work in your area of interest** – Family and friends are great resources.
- 8 Find a mentor** – Find someone with whom you can discuss your career selection.
- 9 Experiment** – Take a related class or part-time job.
- 10 Don't give up** – “If there is a will, there is a way.”

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN PUBLIC SERVICES INDUSTRY SECTOR



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This material is made pursuant to agreement number 07-0170a of the CTE Community Collaborative Supplemental grant. Funds were administered by the Governor's CTE Initiative SB70/SB 1133 through the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Activity that is the subject of this document was supported in whole or part by the U.S. Department of Education. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and no official endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education should be inferred.

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The Public Services Industry Sector provides a foundation for students interested in being involved in their community and serving the public's interest. Careers in this sector often attract people who want to help their fellow citizens and make improvements to the communities they serve. Careers range from public safety to community outreach, and everything in between. Because of heightened interest in homeland and border security, employment growth in this sector is projected at over 20% in the near future.

Students engage in an instructional program that integrates academic and technical preparation and focuses on career awareness, exploration, and skill preparation. Community service, internships, and work experience go hand in hand with classroom instruction.

The **California Career Resource Network**, www.californiacareers.info, is an online resource for exploring careers, personal interests, and reality games.

Go to the **California Career Zone**, www.CACareerzone.org. The *Interest Profiler*, under *Assess Yourself*, identifies personal interests leading to further investigation. We recommend that you spend a few minutes completing these assessments.

Career Pathways



Human Services Pathway

Those involved in human services are concerned with the well-being of the people in the communities they serve. Human services is an umbrella term that includes a variety of different careers with one common denominator, the desire to help people improve the quality of their lives. Services often include providing or supporting client participation in a treatment plan. Many people are drawn to this pathway because of the personal satisfaction they receive from helping others.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Child Care
- Foster Care
- Youth Workers
- Social Workers
- Educational Counselors
- Mental Health Counselors
- Marriage and Family Counselors
- Psychologists
- Psychiatrists
- Crisis Intervention
- Emergency Services
- Disaster Teams
- Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors



Protective Services Pathway

Careers in this pathway primarily address public order, fire protection, and emergency medical services. With a continually growing population, the need for protective services is in constant high demand. Successful individuals who follow this pathway are concerned with protecting people from danger and helping to ensure their health and safety. Many of these careers provide great personal satisfaction from seeing the positive results of personal effort.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Police Officers
- Sheriff Deputies
- Animal Control
- Fire Fighters
- Correctional Officers
- Fire Inspectors
- Paramedics
- Lifeguards
- Ski Patrol
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Private Investigators
- Security Guards
- Railroad Police



Legal and Government Services Pathway

The Legal and Government Services Pathway examines the unique nature of careers in our government and legal system. Careers in the legal field are in constant demand with numerous lucrative positions available. While some careers in this pathway require a college education, many require no more than a high school diploma.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Judges
- Elected Officials
- Border Control
- ATF/CIA/DEA/FBI Agents
- Fish and Game Wardens
- Customs Inspectors
- Criminologists
- Lawyers
- Paralegals
- Legal Clerks
- Court Reporters
- Diplomatic Service

