

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 TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY SECTOR



A Partnership for Success

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Transportation plays a crucial role in our society because moving people and goods is central to everything America does. Vehicle components and systems will continue to become increasingly sophisticated which, in turn, will require well-trained operators and maintenance and repair technicians. Examples of future transportation technology include rocket technology, super-capacity jet airplanes, hybrid, bio-diesel, and hydrogen fuel-cell technology involving automobiles and trucks.

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



Aviation and Aerospace Transportation Services Pathway

More and more people and products are being moved by air than ever before. This practice is expected to continue increasing at a fast pace, which will in turn open more opportunities in this pathway. Aviation and aerospace services include maintaining aircrafts, operating airports, and designing and flying various types of aircrafts.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Ground Support Crews
- Freight and Baggage Handlers
- Ticket Agents
- Flight Attendants
- Airframe and Power Plant Technicians
- Dispatchers
- Air Traffic Controllers
- Pilots
- Aviation Engineers
- Aircraft Detailers
- Mechanics Assistants



Vehicle Maintenance, Service, and Repair Pathway

In your grandparent's day, "shade tree" mechanics were common. You could claim to be a mechanic with a few simple tools – but that day has long passed! Vehicle service and repair is now a highly skilled profession that requires more brainpower than muscle power. Solving problems with your head is critical. In addition to cars and trucks, the motor vehicles category includes boats, motorcycles, trains, and outdoor power equipment. All require specific knowledge in order to be serviced, repaired, and maintained properly.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Lube, Line, and Smog Technicians
- Service Writers
- Diesel Engine
- Small Engine
- Parts and Service Counter Technicians
- Parts Runners
- After-Market Sales
- Shop Foremen
- Manufacturers Representatives
- Motorcycle, Heavy Equipment, and Farm Equipment Mechanics



Collision Repair and Refinishing Pathway

Like to work on puzzles? Piece together broken items? Then collision repair may be for you. Using specialized equipment, a frame technician can return most damaged vehicles to the road. An exterior finisher returns the vehicle to its original appearance.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Collision Repair Technicians
- Auto Detailers
- Refinish Technicians
- Auto Damage Appraisers
- Glass Installers
- Claims Adjusters
- Parts Specialists
- Vehicle Restoration
- Vehicle Painters

