

# Career Research

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Asking critical questions and doing sufficient research about career options is one way to help you choose a job that you will enjoy and feel successful at. In this lesson, you will choose a suggested career path for you, ask some important questions, and do research to find more information. At the end of the lesson, you will have a better understanding of whether this job is a good fit for you.

If you haven't already taken a Self-Evaluation to be matched with potential careers.

[Take the Interest Profiler](#)

When you are finished (or if you already have your results), write down two jobs from your list of matches that you are INTERESTED IN, and why you are interested in them.

1	_____
2	_____

## Questions About Your Future Career

*Consider: What would you ask the employer? An employee? The family members of an employee? Someone who has retired from this job? Etc.*

Write down five questions that you have about one of the careers above.

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____

## Career Research

If you haven't already, narrow your career choice to your top one (the one that is most interesting or realistic to you at this point).

Use these sites (and others if desired): [Next Steps Idaho](#), [US Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), [Career One Stop](#) to find answers to the following questions. You may also research some of the questions you asked above. Try to get a complete understanding of the career you chose!

**Name of Career**

**National Average Salary**

**Idaho Average Salary**

**What types of courses do you need to take in high school to prepare for this career?**

**What types of courses do you need to take in college to prepare for this career?**

**Are there certain colleges that specialize in this occupation? Which ones?**

**On average, how much is college going to cost you?**

**What is a basic overview/summary of this career?**

**On a large scale, how would you be helping people (or the world)?**

**What would you be doing on a daily basis for this career (i.e. daily tasks and responsibilities)?**

**What are some businesses you can work at in the Boise area? Would you have to move to another state?**

**What are some skills you need to do this career?**

**What are some aptitudes you need for this career?**

**Why did you choose this career to research?**

**After completing the research, would you still consider this as a career path for you?**

*Explain your reasoning.*

## **One Step Further**

Do a Google Search for a job opening in the career you researched. Click on a listing that allows you to read it in-depth. Answer the questions below after reading the job listing.

**\*\*NOTE:** this may be more fun/effective if you look at more than one listing from varying employers.

Suggested wording for Google Search: “\_\_\_\_\_ job openings in (*insert your town*), Idaho” “seeking \_\_\_\_\_ in (*insert your town*) Idaho” “Hiring for \_\_\_\_\_ *insert your town*, Idaho” etc.

**What is the job listing you found?**

**What company/employer is it for?**

**1. Does the listing(s) that you found align with the information you researched about that job? (i.e. salary, required skills, hourly work, etc.)**

**2. Would you be interested in applying for this job based on the listing (regardless of the job itself)? Why or why not?**

**3. Were there lots of results for your desired career in “job openings/listings” or not very many? Why do you think that is?**

**4. Was there anything interesting or surprising that you found in your job search?**

**5. List 2-3 questions you may have for the particular listing/employer that you found.**