



YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN CHARGE
FOUNDATION, INC.

Junior Editor's Report

Five Keys to Finding the Right Career

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One of the most critical decisions in a person's life will probably be the choice of career. A suitable career brings personal values, interests, and skills together in a job and working culture that matches an individual's personality. Some critical elements of finding a correct career path include self-awareness, researching careers, skill development, and networking. One may enhance their chances of building a fulfilling and long-lasting career by understanding and enforcing these factors.



1. Find Yourself

Self-Assessment

The first step in making a career choice is to understand yourself. In essence, self-assessment provides the foundation necessary for relating your values, interests, skills, and personality to possible careers. By conducting an effective self-assessment, a person can look at their passions and real motivators.

Identify Your Values

Consider what matters most to you in a job. Work-life balance, job satisfaction, or even salary. Core Values are the guiding principles that shape your decisions, influence your behavior, and ultimately define what brings you joy and satisfaction. Start by reflecting on the moments in your life when you felt the happiest, most accomplished, or most fulfilled. Understanding your core values will help you filter job options that align with your work and life balance.

2. Researching Career Options

Career Exploration

Career Exploration gives an individual the opportunity to realize their interests, skills, values, and career possibilities. Career Exploration can be done by applying an easy method. An individual can use all sorts of resources, including career assessments, job shadowing, or internships, among others, like the YMWIC Program.

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Job Shadowing and Internships

Job shadowing and internships expose young students and professionals to work in environments within their chosen fields. The two opportunities would act as good networking opportunities, connecting the people with other professionals within their chosen fields who can mentor them, and provide recommendations and job leads.

3. Goals

Short-Term and Long-Term Goals

Short-term goals could be getting experience in a specific role or immediate achievements that set a path to the future. Long-term goals would include aspiring to a leader level within the chosen field.

Create a Career Plan

After setting the goals, create a detailed plan for your career that will further enable you to achieve the set targets. Be sure to review it regularly so that any modifications can be made according to the emerging interest and current market trends, keeping your career moving on the right path.

4. Finding and Developing Skills

Identify Transferable Skills

Transferable skills often include critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, teamwork, adaptability, and time management, which are essential in all careers.

Continuous Learning

Consider pursuing additional education, certifications, or training programs that can enhance your qualifications as well as attending workshops, enrolling in online courses, seeking mentorships, and actively engaging in industry-related networking opportunities. Through continuous learning, people can enhance their problem-solving abilities, drive innovation within their careers, and position themselves as leaders in their fields.

5. Making the Decision

Evaluating Opportunities

As you consider specific career paths, weigh the pros and cons of each opportunity thoroughly. Consider aspects such as company culture, career advancement potential, salary, and work-life balance.

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Sometimes, a high-paying job might demand long hours or a stressful environment, which could undermine your overall satisfaction.

Trusting Your Gut

Finally, trust your instincts. If a certain path feels right, aligns with your values, and excites you, then it may be worth pursuing. Remember, no career is perfect, but finding one that brings you joy and fulfillment is possible!

In conclusion, I want to share a valuable lesson I learned as a member of YMWIC. As a YMWIC Scholar, I learned that the journey is just as important as the destination, embracing your path will lead to personal growth and success. Whether you discover your calling quickly or through trial and error, each step in your journey towards success is valuable; and if you are given an opportunity, take it. Deciding on a career as a young adult can feel overwhelming, hearing the "What do you want to be when you grow up?" or "What are you majoring in?" But it's also one of the best parts of growing up and discovering who you are. Just remember that it is okay not to figure everything out right now. Take your time, explore your interests, and be open to change. Curiosity and exploration will then get you to your interest and purpose.