

# Career Planning Activity

## Extra Resource

[www.micampuscompact.org](http://www.micampuscompact.org)



Campus Compact  
Michigan

### Career Planning Activity

First explain to the student the difference between a job and a career.

	Career	Job
<b>Time</b>	<b>Long term (can include many jobs)</b>	<b>Short term (a position)</b>
<b>What is it?</b>	A career is the pursuit of a lifelong ambition or the general course of progression towards lifelong goals	Job is an activity through which an individual can earn money. It is a regular activity in exchange of payment
<b>Requirements</b>	Usually requires special learning beyond that which training is capable of.	Education or Special training may or may not be required
<b>Income</b>	Varies depending on value to society or to some other entity. Non-monetary benefits may be higher, such as health insurance, transportation, free optional coursework, etc.	Varies by demand. More likely to be <u>wage</u> than a <u>salary</u> .

Source: [http://www.diffen.com/difference/Career\\_vs\\_Job](http://www.diffen.com/difference/Career_vs_Job)

### “What is my Career Personality?” Quiz:

Go to <http://www.mycareerquizzes.com/career-personality-quiz?> and complete the multiple choice assessment. It will tell you if you are Practical, Caring, Conventional, etc. kind of worker. It also gives a few examples of such careers. For example, a conventional worker might be a bank teller or accountant while a caring worker may be a nurse or a psychiatrist.

Make sure that the student does not take these quizzes as reading into their futures. They are guides to prompt students to think about how they think and work as well as what they value and enjoy. If the results of the test do not reflect anything of the student’s interests, ask them why. Look for themes and highlight what is important to the student and whether or not this is present in the results of the quiz. You might highlight the fact that their personality might be a unique addition to another field as well!

After they take the quiz, ask them what questions really got them thinking, and which ones were the easiest to answer. This is a reflective exercise, so the questions are more important than anything. Get them to be introspective. What do they know about themselves for sure? What are they unsure about?

## “What are my Career Skills?” Quiz:

Go to <https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/get-started.htm> and complete the 15 questions that assess your skill set. This quiz tests things such as Personal Mastery, Time Management, Communications Skills, and so on.

Again, this assessment is very subjective and there are a lot of factors not taken into account. The reason why these tests can be useful is that it could help students identify things about themselves that they discover through the questions. For example, maybe one student never thought about why Active Listening might be something to focus on improving for their career. In addition, these questions prepare students to think ahead about what skills they need to develop in order to be marketable in the workforce.