

Ready, Set, Career!

How do you take the first step down your career path? Start by finding the right path.

Assess Yourself

Before you begin searching for jobs, take the time to think about your career trajectory. Consider the following:

- What makes me happiest?
- What am I most interested in?
- What are my greatest strengths?
- What are my greatest weaknesses?
- What type of work environment do I thrive in?
- What type of management style do I work best under?
- What are my deal breakers? The things that are so important, I would not be willing to compromise on them for a job.
- What skills and qualifications have I developed through my education or professional experiences?

Based on your answers, think about the types of fields or positions that would match your ideals.

Explore Your Options

Once you have narrowed the broad career highway down to a few specific career paths, figure out what you need to embark on that path. Consider the following:

- What type of experience, training or education do I need?
- What skills do I need to develop?
- What skills do I already have that could be transferable?
- Do I know anyone in this field who could offer advice?

Assess the Field

When you start to look at individual organizations and positions, reflect back on your self-assessment. Consider the following:

- Is it a good fit given my skills and qualifications?
- Will I find the work interesting and challenging?
- Will it offer me my deal breakers?