



Career Center
Lewis & Clark College
go.lclark.edu/career_center
503-768-7114

RESEARCHING YOUR OCCUPATIONAL INTERESTS

Learning about possible career options that interest you is an important step toward working in a field you are passionate about. To be sure you have an all-around view of an occupation, it is best to use **multiple methods to gather information**.

Some ways to identify positions that fit your personal profile include:

- Reading about them in print sources
- Researching them on the internet with **reliable websites**
- **Talking to professionals** in a field
- **Attending campus career events** and presentations
- Testing out possible careers through professional internships, volunteer work, or work experience

The resources listed below are just a starting place. Consult with a career counselor for additional resources.

ONLINE RESOURCES

I want to...

Learn about majors, possible future careers, or the next steps I need to take.

- **Learn How to Become** <https://www.learnhowtobecome.org/>
 - This resource provides step-by-step “**how to**” **guides** for 45 fields with other information about FAQs, salary and job growth by U.S. state, professional associations, and resources for that position.
 - There are also articles about topics such as interviewing and resumes.
- **What Can I Do With This Major?** <https://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/>
 - To use this website, start by finding your major by viewing all majors or by clicking on a field and finding your major within.
 - Note that there are majors outside those offered at Lewis & Clark. With your liberal arts education, you can also look into the vocational paths for these as well.
 - Each major page includes several **different areas you can pursue**, with possible position titles, duties, and employers, as well as strategies to move you toward each area.

- At the bottom of each page, there is a section with general information and links to professional associations, occupational outlook, related resources, and employment opportunities.
- **My Next Move** <https://www.mynextmove.org/>
 - Associated with O*Net, this website begs the question, “What do you want to do for a living?” while providing **next steps for various levels of certainty about your future.**

Learn about specific careers, take assessments, or browse possibilities.

- **Occupational Information Network (O*Net)** <https://www.onetonline.org/>
 - This website is maintained by the U.S. Department of Labor.
 - You can take the O*Net Interest Profiler to **learn about jobs that fit your interests** and current or expected experience.
 - You can search occupations by keywords, growth outlook, industry, duties, and more.
 - Each occupation profile includes detailed information about tasks, training & credentials, education, abilities, and employment trends, as well as related occupations and additional sources to continue your research.
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)** <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
 - This website is maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 - You can **browse occupations** by salary, projected growth, degree, or occupational group.
 - Each job page provides information about the growth outlook, duties, pay, work environment, and education and training requirements.
 - There is also a list of similar occupations and links to additional information for each listing.
- **Glassdoor** <https://www.glassdoor.com/index.htm>
 - You can view **reviews of jobs and organizations** written anonymously by employees to get the inside scoop about what they are really like.
 - Information provided includes salary details to help you negotiate and interview questions to help you prepare.
- **CareerOneStop** <https://www.careeronestop.org/>
 - This is a **one-stop shop** for all things career-related, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor.
 - Career clusters provide information about general fields and the specific jobs within them.
 - You can also find guides about job-related topics, such as interviews, networking, resumes, and cover letters, as well as information about different credentials and trainings.

- There are also guides about finding employment for different demographics, such as young adults and entry-level workers, and more assessments to help you locate your skills and interests.

Learn about going abroad.

- **Go Overseas** <https://www.gooverseas.com/gap-year>
 - This website compiles **gap year programs** from across the globe, allowing you to search by location and program type.
 - The front page also includes a helpful guide to taking a gap year, with information about the benefits, choosing when and where to take a gap year, and costs and scholarships.

Learn about careers from working professionals.

- **LinkedIn: Lewis & Clark College Career Network (L&C Net)**
go.lclark.edu/career_center
 - This is a private group on LinkedIn of 3000+ alumni and parents who want to support the futures of L&C students. The “career experts” live across the US and abroad, and they present a cross-section of industries and professional careers.
 - You can use this resource to **network and connect with professionals** to perform informational interviews (see Career Center handout on Informational Interviewing)