

Career & Postsecondary Development Plan

Instructions and purpose: Creating a career plan is a matter of matching your skills and interests to an occupation to create a career goal, and then determining the steps you need to take to make your plan a reality. Work with YouthBuild staff and your mentor to develop your career plan and revisit the plan monthly. Remember: Career plans are a work in progress and evolve and change over time. The key thing is to keep thinking about your goals and take the steps that you need to reach those goals!

Career Interests and Values

List the 5 qualities in a career that are the most important to you (e.g., flexible hours, working as part of a team, helping people, etc...)

- 1) Being outdoors and in nature
- 2) Working with youth
- 3) Being creative (arts and crafts)
- 4) Working with a team
- 5) Learning about plants and animals

Career Planning

List your primary career goal, an alternative career goal, and a survival plan (i.e., a job that you could do temporarily if your career plans fall through).

Career	Initial Steps	Internship and other experiences	Postsecondary Credential Needed	Short-Term Step	Long-Term Step
Naturalist (outdoor education instructor) (Primary)	Apply for financial aid	Summer camp internship	B.A. in Ecology Teaching Credential	Enroll in community college & earn A.A. in Forest Management	Transfer to 4-year college
Tour guide at a national park (Alternative)	Apply for financial aid	Volunteer tour guide	A.A. Forest Management	Enroll in community college	Locate volunteer opportunities

SAMPLE

Child care teacher (Fall back)	Apply for financial aid	Teacher's Aid or other internship experience working with children	Earn 6 Early Childhood Education units at a Community College	Enroll in community college	Locate Teacher's Aid opportunities
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Education Planning

List degree/credential programs that you are working towards or applying for to reach your career goals:

- 1) Natural Resources/Conservation, A.A. degree, Fresno Community College
- 2) Ecology, B.A California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo
- 3) Science Teacher Education/General Science Teacher Education, Master's degree

List the steps to get into the program, and check them off as you complete them.

Application For Fresno Community College (FCC) Due Date 8/1/12 Completed _____

Personal Essay Don't need one Due Date _____ Completed _____

FAFSA Need parent's tax info. Due Date 2/1/11 Completed _____

College Placement Test Don't need one Due Date _____ Completed _____

FCC Scholarship _____ Due Date 4/1/11 Completed _____

_____ Due Date _____ Completed _____

Overcoming Challenges

Challenges may arise as you pursue your career and postsecondary education. However, you will be better prepared to address these challenges if you have a good game plan in mind! Try to think of possible challenges (both current and future) and work with your mentor to come up with strategies to overcome these challenges.

Challenges	Strategies used to overcome challenges
Need a baby sitter for Shawn and Thomas	Use childcare services at Fresno Community College (FCC)

SAMPLE

What's Next? Introduction to Postsecondary Education Planning

Need money to support family while attending school	Apply for scholarships in addition to federal aid. Apply for a work study position so that I can work on campus.