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).

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

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Strategies used to overcome challenges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need a baby sitter for Shawn and Thomas</td>
<td>Use childcare services at Fresno Community College (FCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need money to support family while attending school</td>
<td>Apply for scholarships in addition to federal aid. Apply for a work study position so that I can work on campus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>