Career Decision Making

AT A GLANCE...
- These five levels of career decision making can help you narrow down your career path
- It matters more that you take the steps to gain clarity and not that you choose a career right away
- Jot down ideas that come from your search

LEVEL ONE
You can’t decide which careers to consider
You may be at this level of career exploration if you have trouble answering questions like:

- What are your interests? Why do you like these things?
- How would you describe yourself? What is your personality like?
- What are your strengths? Where are you most comfortable?
- How do you spend your free time? What do you think about during your free time?
- What inspires you?

How can you find these answers?

- Resources: Explore your personality and interests with an assessment (MBTI, SII, Typefocus), careers.byu.edu, whatcanidowiththismajor.com, Career Studio mentors
- Actions: community involvement (clubs, volunteer, GEs), ST DEV classes

LEVEL TWO
You are interested in 1-3 broad fields
You may be at this level of career exploration if you have trouble answering questions like:

- What do you like learning about?
- What school subjects do you enjoy and do well in?
- What makes your life meaningful?
- What would others say you do well?

How can you find these answers?

- Resources: learntobecome.org, onetonline.org, Occupational Outlook Handbook, oci.byu.edu, Career Studio mentors
- Actions: information sessions, on-campus internships, career fairs, career exploration interview
LEVEL THREE

I am interested in 4-6 specific options
You may be at this level of career exploration if you have trouble answering questions like:

- Who can I talk to in this occupation? What can I ask them?
- What is this occupational workplace like?
- How much money will I make in this occupation?

How can you find these answers?

- Resources: linkedin.com, BYU Connect, careers.byu.edu, handshake.byu.edu, onetonline.org, Career Studio mentors
- Actions: career exploration interview, networking, lunch & learn, career fairs

It is normal to spend more time at levels four and five

LEVEL FOUR

I can’t decide between 2-3 specific options
You may be at this level of career exploration if you have trouble answering questions like:

- Who can I talk to? What do they enjoy about their field?
- What does a day on the job look like?
- What is the outlook for job growth in this career?
- Where would I have to live?
- Would I feel fulfilled in this occupation?

How can you find these answers?

- Resources: handshake.byu.edu, linkedin.com, Indeed.com, Career Shift {careers.byu.edu}, Career Studio mentors
- Actions: volunteering, internships, part-time job, career fairs

LEVEL FIVE

I know a specific occupation I want to pursue
You may be at this level of career exploration if you have trouble answering questions like:

- What are my long-term and short-term goals?
- What are my alternative possibilities?
- Who do I want to emulate?
- Are there opportunities for change or growth within this field?

How can you find these answers?

- Resources: handshake.byu.edu, linkedin.com, Indeed.com, Career Shift {careers.byu.edu}, Career Studio mentors
- Actions: site visits, internships, shadowing, career exploration interviews, BYU Handshake, career fairs, meeting with professors