

NAME _____

Making a Career Choice

Choosing a career is an important decision we all must make. It is necessary to think about your selection early, so the courses you take in high school help you achieve your goals.

One strategy in career planning is to identify a career cluster. Instead of focusing on one specific job, consider a cluster of occupations that are related in interests and skills.

For example, consider occupations related to the Health cluster — specifically, the nursing field. It is possible to work in this field at the following levels:

- Nurse's Aide
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Registered Nurse

There also are important considerations for any job, including:

1. Interest areas
2. Work setting
3. Employer's hiring practices
4. Number of people employed (by area or state)
5. Wages
6. Outlook
7. Skills required
8. Education required
9. Courses in high school that are needed
10. Knowledge

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First, pick an occupation that interests you based on career assessments and knowledge of your abilities. Then, go to OhioMeansJobs K-12 and find the specific occupation in your area of interest. Determine the 10 considerations previously listed for each occupation in your interest area.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Make a list of other occupations in the same career cluster that you also could consider. Make a chart of your findings. You might want to add illustrations. Identify all courses you have taken and plan to take in high school to reach your career goal. Identify your strengths and weaknesses.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

What is your first occupational choice in your interest area? What could be a second choice that you might consider?

1. _____
2. _____