

Your dream, your plan, your future

**Navigating Your Financial Future** offers many free financial resources such as online workshops, helpful links, recorded presentations, a monthly E-newsletter, and more!

#### **Questions?**

Visit <u>www.NavigatingYourFuture.org</u> and select the "Contact Us" tab to request additional assistance from an Outreach Representative.

#### **Additional Resources:**

www.BLS.gov/ooh
www.CareerOneStop.org
www.MappingYourFuture.org





### www.NavigatingYourFuture.org

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# **Career Planning**



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Planning for your career and building a stronger skill set will give you a competitive edge in the job market. Plan an active professional growth strategy for the career that is right for you.

## Create a career portfolio

The following documents can help guide your planning process:

Career plan
Work experience
Previous job reviews
School history
References
Cover letters
Publications

Having this information in one place can make applying for jobs a smoother experience.



# Set career goals; establish a career plan

Goal - what you want to do in the future

Plan - steps to reach your goal



Create or update your cover letter and resume

An effective cover letter conveys purpose, enthusiasm, and knowlege acquired to meet the employer's needs.

#### **Cover letter format:**

1st paragraph - purpose, interest in position, research about the company

2nd paragraph - how you are a qualified candidate, examples of accomplishments

3rd paragraph - refer to enclosures (resume, references, samples of work)

A resume is an overview of individual strengths and how those strengths will contribute to the organization or company. Components of a resume:

Career/work objectives
Work experience
Education
Summary of accomplishments
Contact information
Other: volunteer work, leadership roles

Begin the job search through:

Career centers
Friends/family
Career fairs
Trade magazines
Web based searches
Professional organizations



Use the power of networking to learn of openings in a specific field

Create a list of references and ASK PERMISSION to use those names in your job search



# Prepare for the interview

- Dress appropriately for the job you are seeking
- Come prepared to answer questions such as "Why do you want this job?"
- A firm handshake exhibits confidence

Employers seek good communication skills, motivation, strong work ethic, manners, adapability, and the ability to work with others