

## Career Research Project: Career Research (10.2) (Part of the Career Research Project Series: 10.2 – 10.4)

Goal: Students will conduct career searches focused on their career pathway or industries that interest them.

### Recommended Preparation for Students

The recommendation is for students to complete **6th-10th Grade Module 1: Paying for College** before starting this lesson. By learning about financial aid before exploring or researching colleges, students will place less emphasis on the price tag and more emphasis on other factors, like careers, college preferences, majors, and credentials.

The module consists of two lessons: **Intro to Financial Aid** and **The Cost of College**. By completing the lessons, students gain an understanding of:

- The most common kinds of financial aid.
- Direct versus indirect costs associated with attending college.
- How financial aid makes college cost less.

### Lesson Time Options

This lesson is part of the Career Research Project Series (10.2 – 10.4) and will require one 45-60 minute class period. It is designed to be completed before Lessons 10.3 and 10.4.

### Student Materials

This lesson plan is part of the default **Activities by Grade Level**. The corresponding student My Task for this lesson is called **Career Research Project: Career Research**. For more information, refer to **Downloading and Uploading Documents to CaliforniaColleges.edu** on the Lesson Plans page, located under Resources on your Educator Dashboard.

### In This Packet

This packet includes everything you need to complete the lesson.

- Student Worksheet
- Educator Guide
- Appendix: Learning Extension

### Standards

The literacy skills of Common Core can be broken down into sections – reading, writing, and speaking and listening (language skills are outside of the focus of CaliforniaColleges.edu). In the lesson, students will practice the following skills:

Common Core Skill	Practiced in this Lesson
Reading for Information	CCR-Reading 1, 2, 7; Reading for Information 1, 2, 3, 4
Argument Writing	CCR-Writing 2, 4, 6, 7,9,10

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

Students in today's classrooms are learning not only academic skills and content, but how to be productive members of global communities. There are work habits, experiences, and skills that students need to develop to be ready for higher education and careers.

21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skill	Practiced in this Lesson
Critical Thinking	X
Digital Skills	X
Effective Research Practices	X

## Career Research Project: Career Research: Student Worksheet

Goal: You will conduct career searches focused on your career pathway or industries that interest you.

### Part I: Introduction – Bell Work

How do you learn about careers? How do you know the skills you need for a career? Respond below.

### Part II: Activity


1. Sign in to CaliforniaColleges.edu. Hover on **Career** at the top of the page and click on **Career Search Tool**. There are three ways to research careers here. You will give each way a try.
2. The first way is to **Search by Keyword**. There, you can type the name of any career, click **Search**, and you will see a list of careers related to your keyword. Try it.
3. The second way is to search using **Select Bright Outlook Occupation**. Select any one of the filters: All, Grow Rapidly, or Openings. These filters help you find careers that are in demand. Try it.
4. The third way is to search using the **Select Industry** filter. These filters help you find careers in specific career industries.
5. Focus on the **Select Industry** filter. If you are enrolled in a career pathway, select the industry from the drop-down that your pathway is connected to. If you are not in a career pathway, select an industry that interests you. After you select an industry, click on **Search**.
6. From your results list, test out the sorting options. To do this, click on the small arrows at the top of the Career, Education Level, Salary, and Bright Outlook columns. Sorting helps you organize your results list.
7. Sort your list by Bright Outlook so careers with a bright outlook are at the top of your list. Select one of those careers that has a bright outlook by clicking on the name of the career. You will be taken to the career factsheet. Take a few minutes to carefully review the factsheet. What do you notice? How does each section contribute to your learning about a career? Discuss with an elbow partner.
8. Click on **Back to Career Search Results** located at the very top of the factsheet in the black bar. Using what you have learned about the **Career Search Tool**, conduct a career search to find three careers that are a good match. You can ♥ (favorite) careers either from your results list or at the top of career factsheets – this will save careers to your **My Plan**.

### Part III: Reflect

- Go to **My Plan** and then **My Journal**. In the **Career Journal** section, find prompt #5:  
5. What does job growth look like in one industry you selected? How are you going to use that information to guide continued career exploration and future planning?
- Respond to the above prompt. Follow your teacher's instructions if s/he assigns a different prompt.

### Mark Task as Complete

Before you sign out, make sure to mark this task as complete.

- Click on the **My Tasks** icon  located in the top-right corner of your page.
- Click on the **Your Activities** tab, find the name of this worksheet, and check the completed box.

## Career Research Project: Career Research: Educator Guide

Goal: Students will conduct career searches focused on their career pathway or industries that interest them.

### Recommended Preparation

- Remind students to complete **6th-10th Grade Module 1: Paying for College** before doing this lesson.
- **Review the Student Worksheets for all lessons in the series (10.2 – 10.4).** The worksheets offer clear instructions for students to complete each lesson. Decide how you want to complete the series and use each worksheet.

### Getting Started

You may print the student worksheet for students or direct them to download it and use an electronic version only. If you opt for the latter, give students these instructions to access the worksheet:

- Go to [CaliforniaColleges.edu](https://CaliforniaColleges.edu) and sign in.
- Click on the **My Tasks** icon at the top-right corner of your homepage.
- Find the Task labeled **Career Research Project: Career Research** and open it.
- You may instruct students to simply open the document. If you would like students to complete the worksheet and add it back to **My Plan** on [CaliforniaColleges.edu](https://CaliforniaColleges.edu), refer to **Downloading and Uploading Documents to CaliforniaColleges.edu** on the Lesson Plans page, located under Resources on your Educator Dashboard.

### Guiding Question

How can we begin to prepare students to research careers and identify which careers are a good match?

### Bell Work (5 minutes)

- Students will answer the bell work question. Allow 2-3 timed minutes past the bell.
- How do you learn about careers? How do you know the skills you need for a career?

### Activity (30-35 minutes)

1. Students get to know the different ways to use the **Career Search Tool**. There are three different ways to search, and students test out each way. Ask students what they notice about each search method. Which method do they like best? Why?
2. Then, they focus on using the **Search by Industry** filter. Students enrolled in a career pathway focus their search based on the industries connected to their pathways. Those not in career pathways select an industry of interest.
3. They learn to use the sorting functions and then sort their results list by careers with a bright outlook. Students select one career with a bright outlook and examine a career factsheet. With an elbow partner, they respond to the questions: What do you notice? How does each section contribute to your learning about a career?
4. Finally, students take some time to conduct a thorough career search based on what they have learned and find three careers they like and add them to their **My Plan**.

### Reflection (5-10 minutes)

- Direct students to **My Journal** to respond to the prompt indicated in the student worksheet. You may also assign an alternative prompt.
- Optional: direct students to upload their completed worksheet to **My Documents**.

### Mark Task as Complete

Before students sign out, make sure they mark this task as complete. They have instructions on their worksheets.

# Career Research Project Series: Appendix

## Learning Extension

### Lesson Skills

In this lesson, students will read a detailed report on their learning style, including graphs, descriptions of the various facets of each style, and ways to utilize the knowledge in their career search. Students will then use this information to create a narrative-style description of their ideal learning environment, imagining details where none were necessarily given.

### Learning Extension

Lessons 10.2 – 10.4 are part of the Career Research Project Series. This Learning Extension is intended to accompany all three lessons in the series.

Complex Text	Common Core-aligned Writing Task
<b>Genre:</b> Engineering <b>Content:</b> Engineering Challenges to Improve Society <b>Resources:</b> <a href="http://engineeringchallenges.org/challenges.aspx">http://engineeringchallenges.org/challenges.aspx</a> (student's choice)	At the beginning of this project, select a technological solution that is currently on the market or in the later stages of Research and Development. Who was on the team that created this technology? What careers were utilized in its creation? Research one of these careers as part of the above assignment. How can your chosen career contribute to solutions like these?