

# Career Research Assignment

Objective: To allow you to learn more about a career that is of interest to you. This career DOES NOT have to be related to your co-op placement but should be a realistic and meaningful career option based on your current academic achievement and plans to pursue post-secondary education or training.

What: Title page

Typed research report (with both questions and answers)

Bibliography (min. of 3 reliable sources, use Noodle Tools and follow MLA or APA format)

Interview (interviewee must have been in career for min. of 2 yrs)

Interview reflection

The research portion and interview must be submitted at the same time.

\* Title page must include: career/occupation name, your name, teacher's name, due date

## Career Exploration

Helpful websites:

[www.labourmarketinformation.ca](http://www.labourmarketinformation.ca)

[www.jobsetc.gc.ca](http://www.jobsetc.gc.ca)

[http://www.ilc.org/cfm/CM/index.cfm?Menu\\_ID\\_Sel=200&Lang\\_Sel=1](http://www.ilc.org/cfm/CM/index.cfm?Menu_ID_Sel=200&Lang_Sel=1)

[www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com)

[www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com)

Username: bluewater

Password: 2550

**Answer the following questions completely. Make sure your information is recent and you have consulted at least 3 reliable sources!!**

1. What do people in this occupation do on the job? (i.e. their duties, activities, responsibilities)
2. What education or training is required to enter this occupation?

If <b>College/University</b> , answer these questions.....	If <b>Apprenticeship</b> , answer these questions...
a) What is the exact name of the program you would be taking? b) How many years is the program? c) Find and name two schools in Ontario that offer this program. Where are they located? d) What are the entrance	a)What is the exact name of the trade in which you would become certified? b) Provide the names and locations of two schools where you can attend the in school training portion c) How many in-school sessions must you take? How long are they? d) How many on-the-job hours are

requirements to be accepted into this program? (e.g. admission averages, required courses, experience)	needed to complete the apprenticeship? e) What are the entrance requirements (e.g. secondary school subjects) for trade school?
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3. What training opportunities/requirements exist for people already in this occupation? (e.g. upgrading, additional qualification etc)
4. What interests, likes, or abilities are required for this occupation? (e.g. enjoy being outdoors, excellent people skills)
5. a) List 3 *advantages* of this career.  
b) List 3 *disadvantages* of this career.
6. Why are you interested in this career? What about it is appealing to you?
7. a) What is an average starting wage/salary?  
b) What would be your pay after 2 or 3 years?  
c) What is the maximum wage/salary for this career?  
d) Are people in this occupation typically entitled to benefits through their employer? (e.g. health and dental, pension, long term disability)
8. Describe the working conditions (inside? outside? office setting?) and weekly hours for this position.
9. What other occupations are related to this one?
10. Do you think that this job would allow you to be the type of person you want to be? (i.e. creative, flexible, independent etc) Explain?
11. In what ways would this job affect your personal life?
12. a) Where would you like to work in the future (geographically)?  
b) What are the job prospects for this region you selected in part A?  
Please refer to <http://ca.indeed.com> and type in the desired occupation [www.workingincanada.gc.ca](http://www.workingincanada.gc.ca) - go to right hand side to "Wages and Outlook" and type in the job title and province

13. Do you have the required subjects, marks, work ethic, etc. to be eligible for, and successful in, this career? Be realistic. If not, what changes might you make in order to plan for a career in this field?

### Interview Form

\*\*You must complete the interview in person or over the phone. In no circumstances is the interviewee to complete the form.

\*\*You may not interview a family member without approval to do so.

Student Name:

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Name of Person Interviewed:

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Name of Company/Business:

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Description/Nature of Company or Business:

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#### **Interview Questions (asked and completed by the student)**

1. What is your job title?
2. What are the duties and responsibilities of your job?
3. How many hours per day or week do you work?  
Do you work shifts?
4. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

5. a) What do you like the most about your work?

b) What do you like the least about your work?

6 a) What education or training is needed for this occupation?

b) What training have you completed since starting the job?

c) What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in this job?

7. Is there a steady demand for workers in this field? How much job security is there?

8. What should people do to get started in this career? (i.e. experience, training, education)

9. How might this job change in the future?

10. What other jobs could you do with the skills/education you have gained in this field.

11. How are new employees hired for this position?

12. Ask one additional question of your choice:

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Interviewer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer's (Interviewee) Signature

## Student Reflection

1. What did you learn about this particular career that you did not know before the interview?

2. Was this assignment of value to you?

Do you think it should continue to be offered as part of the co-op program?

Why or why not?

3. Briefly, tell me how you felt about interviewing someone. Did you enjoy it? How could you improve your interviewing technique?

