

Career Research Project: Career Research (10.2)

Part of the Career Research Project Series: 10.2 – 10.4

Goal: Students will use the Career Search Tool on CaliforniaColleges.edu in order to identify and learn about careers or industries of interest.

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 such as 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

- Chromebook/Laptop
- Internet Access
- Worksheet

In This Packet

This packet includes everything you need to complete the lesson.

- Educator Guide
- Student Worksheet

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

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

Career Research Project: Career Research: Educator Guide

Goal: Students will use the Career Search Tool on CaliforniaColleges.edu in order to identify and learn about careers or industries of interest.

Recommended Preparation

- Remind students to complete **6th-10th Grade Module 1: Paying for College** before starting this lesson.
- **Review the Student Worksheets** for all lessons in the series (**10.2 – 10.4**). The worksheets provide clear instructions for students to complete the lesson. Determine how you will use the worksheets.

Getting Started

- You may print the **Student Worksheet** for students or embed the link in the materials you share with students.

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 questions: How do you learn about careers? How do you know the skills you need for a career? Allow 2-3 timed minutes past the bell.

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. Discuss: Which method do they like best? Why?
2. Next students will focus on using the **Search by Industry** filter. Students enrolled in a career pathway should focus their search based on the industries connected to their pathways. Those not in career pathways should select an industry of interest.
3. Students will learn to use the sorting functions and then sort their results list by careers with a bright outlook. Students will select one career with a bright outlook and examine a career factsheet. With an elbow partner, students will respond to the questions: What do you notice? How does each section contribute to your learning about a career?
4. Finally, students will 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 (*prompt #06: "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?"*). You may also assign an alternative prompt.
- Optional: direct students to upload their completed worksheet to **My Documents**, found under **My Plan**.

Career Research Project: Career Research: Student Worksheet

Goal: You will use the Career Search Tool on CaliforniaColleges.edu in order to identify and learn about careers or industries of interest.

Part I: Introduction – Bell Work

How do you learn about careers? How do you know the skills you need for a particular 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 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 to which your pathway is connected. 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. Favorite (♥) three careers either from your results list or 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 #06**:
“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 they assign a different prompt.