

Table of Contents

Changing Careers	2
Career Key – http://www.careerkey.org	
Getting the Skills	
Skills Profilers – http://www.acinet.org/acinet/skills home.asp	
LearnATest – http://www.mel.org	12
On-Line Resources.	14

Changing Careers

Finding the right career isn't the easiest task and it certainly won't be completed covered in the class, but we'll look at some tools to guide and help you to make the right choices when it comes to your career.

There are many reasons why an individual may choose to change their career, it could be family related or possibly they are stuck in a dead-end position wishing to make a change. There are too many reasons to mention today, but we'll focus on tools that can help you whatever the reason.

Career Key - http://www.careerkey.org

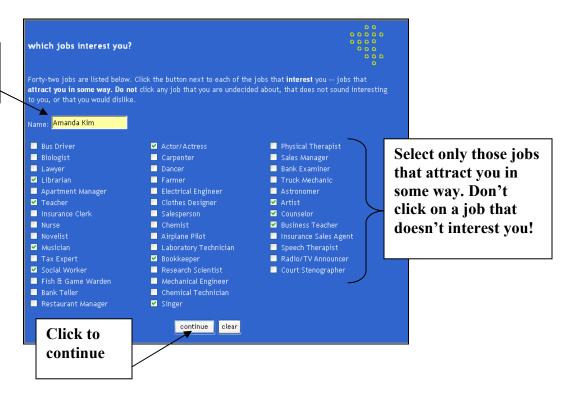
Career Key will help you in your career planning process by measuring your skills, abilities, talents, values and interested in a short quiz. This way, you will be able to identify promising jobs and get accurate career information.

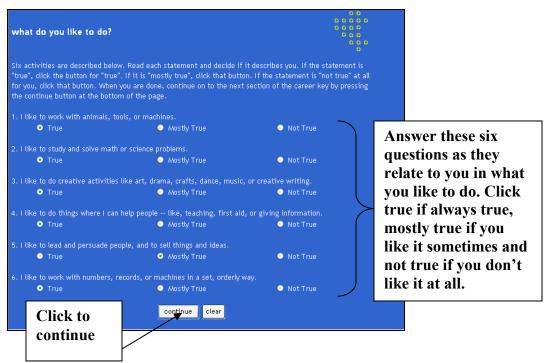
Best yet, it's a FREE service.

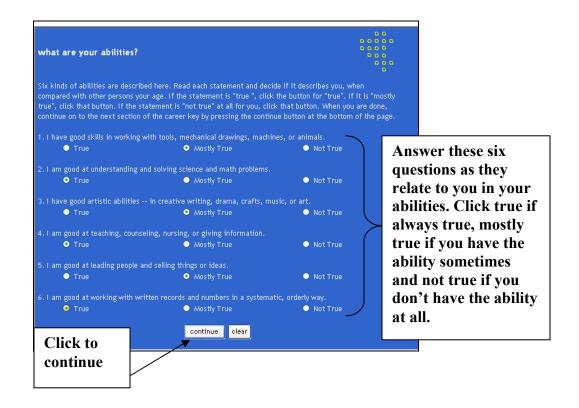


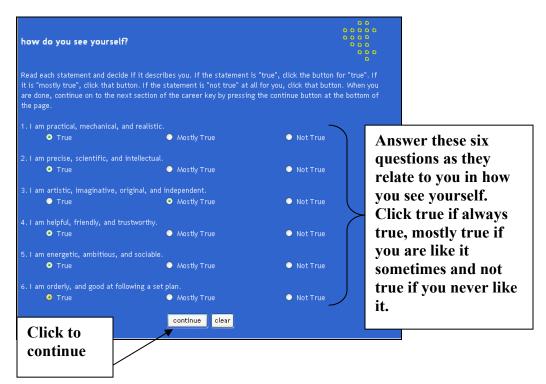


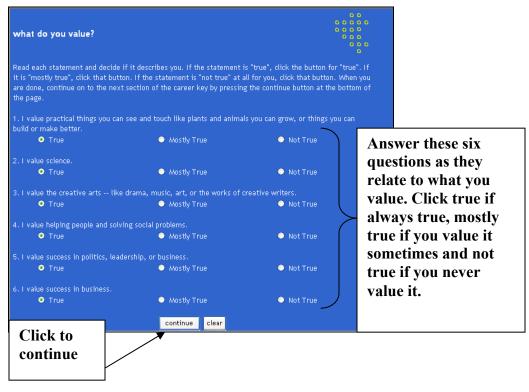














Here are the results of the quiz. The Career key breaks you down into 6 basic types of people. The higher the score, the more you like that type of person.

Using the results of the Career Key quiz, you will naturally see which job best suits your personality type. Generally, you will be happiest in a job which matches your personality type. Look at jobs which match your 2 or 3 top personality types. In this case, Amanda would look at social, artistic and conventional.

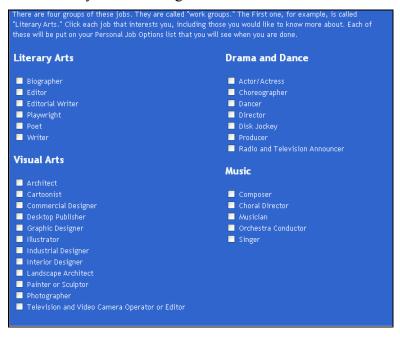


This is the final page of your quiz. Here you can click on the various personality types to learn more about jobs which will suit that type of person.

Personality Type	Description
Artistic	 Likes to do creative activities such as art, drama, crafts, dance, music or creative writing Generally avoids highly ordered or repetitive activities Good artistic abilities - in creative writing, drama, crafts, music or art Values the creative arts - like drama, music, art, or the works of creative writers Sees self as expressive, original, and independent
Conventional	 Likes to work with numbers, records or machines in a set, orderly way Generally avoids ambiguous, unstructured activities Good at working with written records and numbers in a systematic, orderly way Values success in business Sees self as orderly, and good at following a set plan
Enterprising	 Likes to lead and persuade people, and to sell things and ideas Generally avoids activities that require careful observation and scientific, analytical thinking Good at leading people and selling things or ideas Values success in politics, leadership, or business Sees self as energetic, ambitious, and sociable
Investigative	 Likes to study and solve math or science problems Generally avoids leading, selling, or persuading people Good skills at understanding and solving science and math problems Values science Sees self as precise, scientific, and intellectual
Realistic	 Likes to work with animals, tools, or machines Generally avoids social activities like teaching, counseling, nursing, and informing others Good skills in working with tools, mechanical drawings, machines or

Personality Type	Description	
Realistic (cont'd)	animals	
	Values practical things you can see and touch like plants and	
	animals you can grow, or things you can build or make better	
	Sees self as practical, mechanical, and realistic	
Social	• Likes to do things to help people - like teaching, counseling, nursing,	
	or giving information	
	• Generally avoids using machines, tools, or animals to achieve a goal	
	Good skills at teaching, counseling, nursing, or giving information	
	Values helping people and solving social problems	
	Sees self as helpful, friendly, and trustworthy	

Amanda may choose to dig further in the artistic arena.



These are the jobs which match closest to the Artistic personality trait. The jobs are broken into "work groups" Click on a job that interests you and it will be added to your personal job options.

It is easy to move from one trait to another by clicking on the buttons found at the bottom of the page.



Click the done button when you've completed looking at all the personality traits and selecting jobs that sound interesting.



Those jobs that interested you are listed underneath the appropriate personality trait. These jobs are described further if you click on one of them.

See what happens when I click on singer...



US Department of Labor web site pops up. Details about the job, nature of the work, working conditions, employment, training, job outlook, earnings, related occupations and much more are available. Closing this window brings us back to the list where you can learn about another job.

Getting the Skills

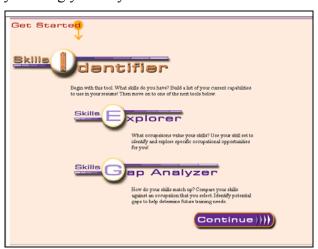
Once you've found the jobs which are most interesting to you, it's time to find out if there are skills you need to work on and also to emphasize on your resume.

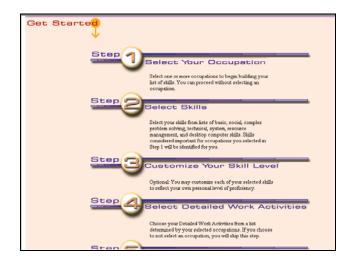
There are many skills assessment tools available and you can even do this on your own. One we'll focus on is the Skills Profiler offered by America's Career Infonet

Skills Profilers - http://www.acinet.org/acinet/skills_home.asp

This skills profiler will help you narrow down from a group of possible careers as well as guiding you on what skills you are lacking and need to strengthen.

First, you'll need to create a list of job by identifying your skills using the Skills Identifier. After identifying your skills, use the Skills Explorer to see what occupations value your skills and then the Skills Gap Analyzer to compare your skills and identify gaps to determine any training you may wish to receive.





There are five steps to this process. First, but selecting one or more occupations you've held in the past, second, by selecting skills, third by selecting your skill level, fourth by selecting detailed work activities performed and finally, a view of the final report.





Select your stills from the lists below. Those skills considered important for Extrading, Ferming, Pressing, and Comparting Machine
Operators and Tenders have a checkbor in the column "important for Occupation." Skills not considered important for your selected
occupation(s) are listed under "Other Skill." Note. Some occupations may not have many skills available as "important." To select your skills, chick on the bost to the left of the last. To choose a different occupation, use the back button to return to the personar page. Developed capacities that facilitate learning or the more rapid acquisition of knowledge Important for Other Skill Skill Understanding the implications of new information for both our and future problem-solving and decision-making. Active Learning ✓ Active Listening Owing full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate and not interrupting at inappropriate times. Critical Thinking Ling logic and restoring to inappropriate lines.

Uning logic and restorating to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

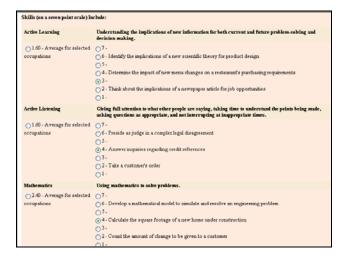
Selecting and using training/instructional methods and procedures appropriate for the substant when learning or teaching new things.

Using mathematics to solve problems. Learning Strategies Monitoring Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, organizations to make improvements or take corrective action. Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents. Reading Comprehension Using scientific rules and methods to solve problems Science Talking to others to convey information effectively. Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience. Secial Skills Developed capacities used to work with people to achieve goals Important for Other Skill Skill Skill Skill Description

The first step is to select your occupation. Here you want to select an occupation which you have had in the past, not an occupation which you have never held. Because, you need to match your skills sets with another occupation which is similar. It is recommended to select at least one or two occupations at this step.

You can find an occupation by either using the Keyword Search and receiving a list of occupations or by using the Menu search and manually finding occupations which match.

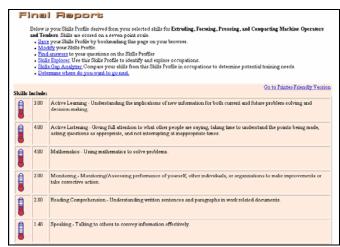
Next, based on the occupation(s) selected, you will need to mark the skills which you have. Carefully read the description to gain a better understanding of the skill required.



Next, based on a seven point scale, rate your skill level with each skill. An average is automatically selected, but if you feel you are above or below average, it's fine to change and select from the scale.



Finally, step 4 allows you to select Detailed Work Activities which you have performed. Only select those activities you have done in the past, not something you wish you had done or had done only once.



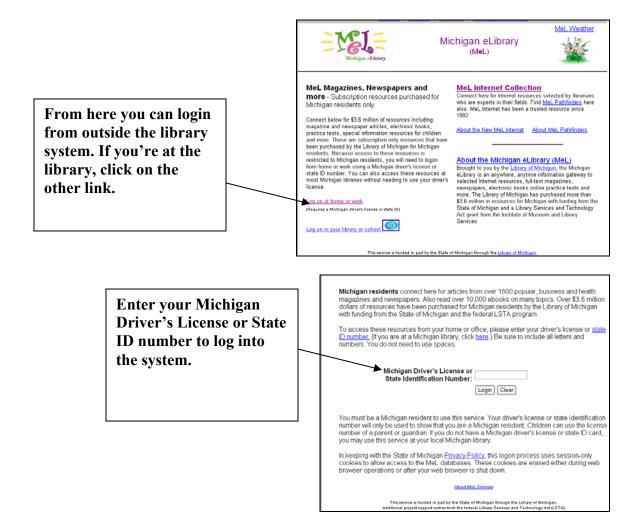
The final report shows your skill level for each skill required by the occupation(s) you had selected originally. From here, it's a good idea to go to the Skill Explorer to identify other occupations which may be of interest to you. Once you select another occupation, you may wish to visit the Skill Gap Analyzer which can give you ideas of what training you may need to receive.

LearnATest - http://www.mel.org

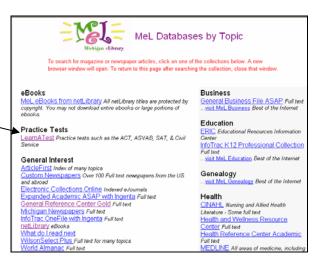
Using the Michigan Electronic Library, or MEL, you can access a variety of tests which can help you gain skills and to receive certification in a specific field. All this can help you to transform your career or change careers.

MEL is available to the general pubic, but there is one area only available to Michigan residents, which includes the LearnATest program.

It is possible to access this from outside the library if you have a Michigan driver's license or Michigan State ID.



MeL offers a variety of resources, but the focus on this will be the LearnATest.

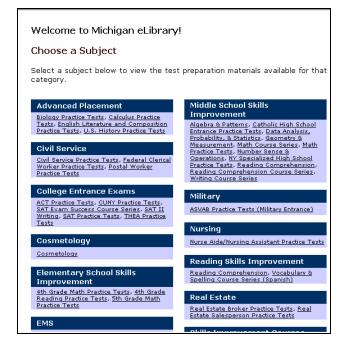




If this is the first time you are using this service, click on the New User link to create a sign on and password.

This is a listing of all the practice tests available to take.

These are free and the results can be printed at the end of the test.



On-Line Resources

Web Site Address	Description
http://www.mel.org	Michigan eLibrary offering a variety of on-
	line resources as well as magazines,
	newspapers and more for Michigan
	residents for FREE .
http://www.nycareerzone.org/	Project from New York designed to
	provide information on a wide variety of
	careers in New York State, but offers a
	great program to show you jobs which
	match your personality profile. It is also
	available for FREE .
http://online.onetcenter.org/	Put together by the US Department of
	Labor this is a comprehensive database of
	worker attributes and job characteristics.
	With over 950 occupations available this
	will help you to uncover skills, abilities,
	knowledge, work activities and interests
	associated with a particular occupation.
	This is also a FREE resource.