

## **PEAK DISCOVERY ACTIVITY 3a:** **Identify a Job and the Education Needed for Your Lifestyle**

**Discover your career path and be sure it provides enough earning power.**

So far, you've discovered your lifestyle and determined what it will cost. You now need to decide what line of work will interest you and offer you the income you need. To be a nurse, carpenter, auto mechanic, or truck driver is great. Also think about becoming the head nurse, the foreman or even the owner of the company. In this Activity, you'll explore many job categories. Here are a few samples:

|                          |                         |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Truck driver</b>      | <b>Auto mechanic</b>    | <b>Office manager</b>   |
| <b>Machinist</b>         | <b>Programmer</b>       | <b>Registered nurse</b> |
| <b>Doctor</b>            | <b>Filmmaker</b>        | <b>Writer</b>           |
| <b>Flight attendant</b>  | <b>Lawyer</b>           | <b>Biologist</b>        |
| <b>Computer operator</b> | <b>Welder</b>           | <b>Chemist</b>          |
| <b>CPA (accountant)</b>  | <b>Banker</b>           | <b>House painter</b>    |
| <b>Military service</b>  | <b>Artist</b>           | <b>Plumber</b>          |
| <b>Football player</b>   | <b>Dentist</b>          | <b>Electrician</b>      |
| <b>School teacher</b>    | <b>Computer analyst</b> | <b>Airline pilot</b>    |

### **Choose three jobs to investigate**

Using the ideas you already have of the type of work or career you want, enter three job choices below. You can also use the online Occupation Outlook Handbook at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/> to explore further. (Click the link above, or copy, or type it into your web browser.)

**First job choice:**

**Second job choice:**

**Third job choice:**

### **Find the salaries of the jobs you've chosen**

**Go Find It** → **In the Online Occupation Outlook handbook** (at [www.bls.gov/oco/](http://www.bls.gov/oco/)), you'll find resources for finding salaries of the jobs you chose above. You may also use the Occupational Outlook Handbook in the library, or other resources you have.

You can also use a national Salary Wizard at <http://career-advice.monster.com/salary-benefits/home.aspx> (Click the link above, or copy, or type it into your web browser.)

**Salary, First job:**

**Salary, Second job:**

**Salary, Third job:**

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So far in this Course, you have:

- Created the independent lifestyle you want,
- Discovered the cost of that lifestyle,
- Found jobs that interest you,
- Discovered what those jobs pay.

Now, you must answer two important questions:

1. Will those jobs pay enough to support my lifestyle?
2. Will I have enough education to get those jobs?

Continue on to discover if your education, income, and preferred life are compatible....

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**ENTER** the numbers you created in your earlier Activities, for your chosen lifestyle...

Estimated amount to save per year: \$

YEARLY EXPENSES for Your Lifestyle: \$

Yearly Expenses, including 15% Taxes: \$

MONTHLY Take-Home Pay Needed: \$

HOURLY Take-Home Pay Needed: \$

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**Will you make enough money?**

Subtract *Yearly expenses including taxes* above from the salary of your *First job choice* above. Enter the result below. After paying your Expenses, you should have enough salary left for your *Estimated amount to save* above.

[ ] YES      [ ] NO

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**Matching your income to your expenses**

Do you have enough income to cover your expenses? (Click one)

- I DON'T have enough
- I have enough income
- I have enough income, but want more so I have extra money to save

If your income does not cover your expenses, what do you plan to do?

## HOW MUCH EDUCATION DO YOU NEED?

...now, **STOP** and think about this! This is the most important part of this Course.

**Go Find It** → Using the Online (or printed, if you have it) Occupational Outlook Handbook again, find out how much education is required for each job you chose.

**First job choice:**

**Second job choice:**

**Third job choice:**

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**Your current educational plans** At this point in your life, how much education do you plan to get?

**Select one below:**

- No high school diploma or G.E.D.
- A G.E.D.
- A G.E.D. and some on-the-job training
- A high school diploma
- A high school diploma and on-the-job training
- A two-year college degree
- A four-year college degree
- A master's degree or more

**Look at your answers above. Look carefully at the difference between your educational plans and the education required. Describe the difference between the education you NEED to have the life you want, and the education you PLAN to get.**

**If there's a difference, what do you plan to do?**

**If your expenses are more than your income, you MUST:**

- 1. DECREASE your expenses: go back to the previous Activities and make changes**
- 2. INCREASE your earning power: decide how much more education you need, and plan to get it**
- 3. Do BOTH: decrease your expenses AND increase your income**

**DO NOT CONTINUE in this Course until your income is greater than your expenses and you have enough education to get the jobs that pay that income. Go back and make changes if you have to. This is the way to make your future possible!**



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