Maximizing Your Own Career: Potential: Opportunities for Your Career Path

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Questions Abound: Your Readiness for Change

TIME FOR A CHANGE?
TIME TO MAKE A MODIFICATION?
TIME TO EXPAND?
TIME FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?
TIME TO MOVE ON?
The Evolution of Your Career
Traveling A Personal Journey: A Cyclical Approach

Options

Path to Attain

Successes
Re-evaluation
Modifications
Continue Journey
Change Path
Career Management

• The strategic planning, decision making, and implementation of career activities/choices/modifications that lead to one’s continued professional growth in order to meet/accomplish specific goals/changes in career trajectory.
Know Yourself: A Self Assessment

The 5 W’s and the H
Introspection: Developing Self Awareness
Who

• Who are you in your present nursing career position, singular and/or combination?
  • Clinician/Practitioner
  • Educator
  • Administrator
  • Student

• Do you want to change career trajectories; modify your career trajectory?
What

• What are your professional/personal goals?
  • Goals met
  • Goals currently meeting
  • Goals to still meet/accomplish
• What are your strengths and weaknesses?
• What are the pros and cons of your current position?
• What are your unique qualifications/characteristics?
  • What do I have to offer/build upon?
Where

• Where do you envision your career to be in relation to workplace; geographical location

• Where is your career currently situated, i.e. school, practice, academics, administration, research, eclectic/blended role, other

• Where do you want to be in your professional career in 1 year, 5 years, 10 years…
  • Where can you best meet professional/personal goals
Why

• Why is your professional development and management important to you?
• Why have you made the choices you have made?
• Why are the circumstances such that you are now/might be interested in a change/modification in career path/trajectory?
When

• When did you become a professional nurse?
• Do you have a time change you want to implement in your career?
• When, if applicable, did you determine that you wanted to change/modify career path/trajectory?
  • Was there a particular impetus for desire to make a change/modification?
• How do I know if a change in career path/trajectory is what is best for me at this point in my career; at this point in my personal life?
• How do I know what steps to take toward making a change in career path/trajectory?
• How do I know what is available for me in nursing, health care, other related areas?
• How do I begin…
Finding One’s Own Path
Endless Possibilities

Clinician
Advanced Practice Nurse
Faculty/Academician
Researcher
Administrator

REGISTERED NURSE
Entrepreneur
Advanced Education
Policy Maker/Politician

Global Nurse
Volunteer/Mentor/Coach

Author
YOUR CAREER IS A JOURNEY

NOT A SPRINT
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ADVANCED EDUCATION
Step 1

• Determining What Degree to Pursue

• Career Work Versus All Those Degree Letters
  • What do all those letters mean
Step 2

• Do Your Research
  • Seek Information
  • Ask Questions
  • Resources
    • Peers/Colleagues/Mentors/Faculty/Role Models
    • Professional Organizations
    • On-line
    • Journals
Step 3

• Explore Program Offerings
  • What is the curriculum? Does it meet your needs?
  • How does the program work in relation to time and place?
  • Are you required to complete the program in a particular timeframe?
  • Does the school/faculty have a good reputation?
  • Is the school well-known in your area of interest?
  • What type of financial aid packages does the program offer?
Step 4

- Narrow Down Your Options

- Here’s Where all the “Homework” Comes In
- Which up to five programs fit your needs best?
- What “prerequisite” work is needed for each of your preferred program choices?
- Prerequisite exams?
Step 5

• Interviewing: A Two Way Process
  • Phone, Email, In Person
    • Are you willing to travel for interview (Cost?)
    • “Surprise” Visits
    • List of Questions
    • “Practice”
Step 6

- Completing the Application Process
  - On-line versus paper
  - Universal applications
  - Directions and Deadlines
  - Information to be forwarded on prerequisites
  - Letters of Recommendation

Give Yourself the Right Amount of Time
Step 7

• Making Your Decision
  • Of the programs you have been accepted to:

  • Which one meets your needs most completely?
  • Which one has most flexibility to accommodate your needs/interests?
  • Which one will provide the best financial package?
  • Which one has the best mentors in your area of interest?

Which program will best prepare you to continue on your career journey?
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ADVANCED

CLINICAL PRACTICE
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ACADEMIA
ADVANCEMENT
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

RESEARCHER
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ADMINISTRATOR
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ENTREPRENEUR
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

ADVOCATE/POLITICIAN/
POLICY MAKER
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

GLOBAL NURSE
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

MENTOR/COACH/VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

AUTHOR
General Factors to Consider

- Career goals/desires
- Educational circumstances
- Personal circumstances
- Geographical mobility
- Financial circumstances
Next Steps...

• How do I begin…Considerations for Everyone at Various Points on Journey
  • Utilize 5 W’s and H as means to self assessment and career path development and evaluation
  • Develop a tentative career path/plan for next steps
    • Resumes versus CV
      • Same? Different? When?
    • Letters
      • Types/Focus
Next Steps…

• Interviewing
  • Traditional/Behavioral/Face-Face/Telephone/Universal/Faculty w/Presentation
• Make a Pro/Con List….Yes, even you…
  • Where you are currently
  • Where you might want to be
• Network
• Social Networking: Pros and Cons
• Talk to mentor/Seek out mentor/Become a mentor…
  • No matter how seasoned your are
Your Career Journey Continues…

• You are already on your way so have confidence and be proud

• Your career journey is yours to determine and navigate
  • Don’t get off your path unless you choose to take a detour or two…
  • Take your time; nursing options will always be there, including the diverse and varied educational opportunities that continue to be developed
Next Steps…

• Be open to all possibilities
• Don’t be inhibited to be a risk taker or step “out of your box”
• Expect the unexpected

• EMBRACE YOUR CAREER JOURNEY
Pursue Your Dreams
Contact

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