

## Career Services

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Career Services is composed of four service areas that collectively address the full range of career-planning needs. These services are Career Decision Making, Experiential Education, Job Search and Employment Services. The Career Decision Making service area assists students with the process of early career planning. Specifically, our Career Decision Making team helps students assess interests, skills and values; explore majors and career options; and gather occupational information.

## Career Decision-Making Process

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Students are often overwhelmed by the idea of choosing a career path. The task of selecting one occupation from thousands of choices can seem daunting. Yet, the career decision-making process can be broken down into interesting, rewarding and manageable steps.

Self-evaluation is a key component of early career planning: students must be keenly aware of their skills, interests, work values and personality preferences to identify careers for which they are well-suited. We offer several career assessments that evaluate these four areas. Gathering occupational information is also key to making sound career decisions. Your student should make an effort to truly learn about the occupations he/she is considering. These are just a few of the necessary steps that will help your student make the right career choices. Encourage your student to schedule an individual appointment with a career decision-making counselor in our office. These one-on-one meetings allow students to gain personalized guidance that can help them make important career decisions early.

Students at all levels should also participate in the career exploration workshops and events we hold throughout the year. Each year, we bring to campus hundreds of employers who are eager to not just hire students from LSU, but also to share advice and general information about various careers and industries. Taking advantage of such networking and career exploration activities as an underclassman will help your student lay a solid foundation for future career success.

## Choosing a Major

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The following tips can help your student select a major from among the almost-75 offered:

- Visit our Career Information Center, a mini-library in B-1 Coates Hall.
- Use the LSU Catalog to research majors at LSU.
- Visit departmental Web sites to learn about curricula, research and activities.
- Talk to faculty advisors in areas of interest.
- Explore the *What Can I Do With This Degree?* series on our Web site (i.e., [www.lsu.edu/career](http://www.lsu.edu/career) > Students > Career Decisions).
- Schedule an appointment with a career decision-making counselor in Career Services.

How can you help your student? Keep the lines of communication open, respect your student's career decision, and encourage him/her to "use" Career Services.

