

## Cost of a Career

**Before you begin**, complete the steps outlined on the last page for Career Exploration using the ASVAB CEP.

During your ASVAB Career Exploration Post-Test Interpretation, you identified your academic strengths and work-related interests. As you conducted exploration using these variables, you saved three to five occupations you thought might be for you. You also saved your “favorite” careers. All these items are now available on your Portfolio. Log in to view or print your Portfolio to start this exercise.

For this exercise, you will research the cost of pursuing two different paths for a career. Take into consideration several different paths available to you (i.e., college, vocational school, military, certificate, apprenticeship) to reach this career goal.

Select one of your “favorite” occupations and outline two paths to reach this career goal.

### Example below

Medical Assistant Path 1	Medical Assistant Path 2
Medical Assistant Training School	One-Year Certificate at a Community College

**Now that you have two paths outlined, make a list of costs associated with each path.**

	Path 1	Path 2
	Medical Assistant Training School	One-Year Certificate at a Community College
Training School*	\$1200-\$4200	
One-Year Certificate at a community college*		\$2500-\$10,000
On-the-Job Training/ Job Shadowing (not paid)		
Time to Complete Training	A few weeks to a year	One-Year
Certified Medical Assistant Exam*	\$95-\$170	\$95-\$170
Living Expenses for 1 Adult in Fairfax County **	\$35,034	\$35,034
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$36,329-\$39,404</b>	<b>\$37,629-\$45,204</b>



**Considering cost, which path would you choose?**

\*<https://www.vocationaltraininghq.com/cost/medical-assistant-school/>  
 \*\*<https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/51059>

# Student Activity

Select one of your "favorite" occupations and outline two paths to reach this career goal.

Favorite Career	

  

Path 1	Path 2

Now that you have two paths outlined, make a list of costs associated with each path.

	Path 1	Path 2
<b>Total Cost</b>		



Considering cost,  
which path would you choose?

## Career Exploration Using the ASVAB CEP

Using information about your strengths, weaknesses, and interests, you will be researching careers using the [asvabprogram.com](http://asvabprogram.com) website.

For the classroom activities, please ensure you complete the following steps:

- A.** Enter your access code and register your email address. This will allow you to easily sign in the next time.
- B.** Review your ASVAB Results.
- C.** Within the Learn About Yourself tab (Step 1), select “Take the FYI.” You will use these results and your ASVAB CEP Strengths to explore careers in the OCCU-Find.
- D.** Within the Explore Careers tab (Step 2), select “Start Career Exploration.” Search by your top three interest codes and sort by your primary ASVAB CEP Strength to narrow down careers best suited for you. For more ways to use the OCCU-Find, watch the “Exploring the OCCU-Find” tutorial.
- E.** As you start working through the list of careers, there will be some that you find noteworthy. Use the button for “Notes” to make comments explaining any thoughts (good or bad) you have about pursuing a particular career and the button for “Add to Favorites” to save the jobs you like. Do this for at least five careers.
- F.** Within the Explore Careers tab (Step 2), select the careers you want to compare and then select Compare Occupations. This will allow you to easily compare details of your Favorite careers side-by-side.
- G.** Once you decide on a career you’d like to pursue, select “Create a new plan” The Career Plan helps you build the action steps required to achieve your goals. You can build multiple plans so you can evaluate your options and decide which path is right for you.

The screenshots illustrate the following steps in the ASVAB CEP interface:

- Screenshot 1:** The user is on the login page. A red circle 'A' highlights the 'CREATE ACCOUNT' button.
- Screenshot 2:** The user is in the 'Learn About Yourself' step. A red circle 'B' highlights the 'SAMPLE STRENGTHS' section, and a red circle 'C' highlights the 'Take the FYI' button.
- Screenshot 3:** The user is in the 'Explore Careers' step. A red circle 'D' highlights the 'START CAREER EXPLORATION' button, and a red circle 'E' highlights the 'Notes' button for a selected career.
- Screenshot 4:** The user is in the 'Career Plan' section. A red circle 'G' highlights the 'CREATE A NEW PLAN' button.