

Considerations Before Making a Career Change

- Are you sure that you want a career change? Be sure that what you really want is not just a job change. In other words, are you in the right career, but ready to move to a new job?
- Do you want to stay within the career cluster/related career? If so, then all or some of your previous education and/or training might be useful, or do you want to make a drastic and unrelated career change? This may mean additional education and/or training.
- Do you know why you want to make a career change? Ask yourself what specific things do/did you like about your job? What specific things do/did you dislike about your job? What would you like to be different? Be specific.

Making the Change

- List specific things that you are looking for in career.
- List any transferable skills that you have? These are general skills that are applicable in a number of careers (good communicator, etc.) Go to O*net on the web to match your transferable skills to careers.
- Take an interest inventory to establish your interests/passions.
- Research careers that fit your interests, the specific things that you are looking for in a career (work values), and your transferable skills.
- Interview people in the career field you are interested in. Ask them what it took to get there, what they like most, and what they like least.
- Once you've made a choice, investigate how to get the specific education and/or training you will need.