

# 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 My 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>	\$36,329-\$39,404	\$37,629-\$45,204



**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.** Under Step 1, select "Take the FYI." You will use these results and your ASVAB CEP Strengths to explore the OCCU-Find.
- D.** Under Step 2, select "Search Careers with the OCCU-Find." Use your interest codes and primary ASVAB CEP Strength to sort. 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.** Click on "My ASVAB CEP" to return to your dashboard. Under Step 2, select "View Favorites" to easily compare career details side-by-side.

The image shows two screenshots of the ASVAB CEP website. The top screenshot is the 'MY ASVAB CEP' dashboard. It features a navigation bar with 'VIEW FAVORITES', 'TUTORIALS', and 'HELP'. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for 'My ASVAB Strengths' (Verbal, Math, Science & Technology), 'See ASVAB Results', and 'My Interest Codes' (S, R, C). A central area titled 'Your top strength will have the most books' shows a progress bar for 'STEP 1 LEARN', 'STEP 2 EXPLORE', and 'STEP 3 PLAN'. Under 'STEP 1', there is a 'TAKE THE FYI (FIND YOUR INTERESTS)' button. Under 'STEP 2', there is a 'SEARCH CAREERS WITH THE OCCU-FIND' button. Under 'STEP 3', there is a 'VIEW MY PORTFOLIO' button. A 'MY TOP INTERESTS' section shows 'S', 'R', and 'C'. A 'VIEW FAVORITES' button is also visible. The bottom screenshot is the 'OCCU-FIND' search results page. It shows a search for 'Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics'. The results include a list of careers with a 'BRIGHT OUTLOOK' star. A 'NOTES' button and an 'ADD TO FAVORITES' button are visible. A 'MY ASVAB CEP' button is also present.