

Career Exploration and Goal Setting for New MBAs

Start thinking about your short and long-term career goals and developing an action plan to achieve them. The first step in doing so is to solidify what you value in a career, your expectations and what you have to offer a potential employer. You should also be conducting research on the type of company you want to work for and the type of job you want. Consult the MBA Career Guide for a sample career action plan.

Know Yourself - Self Assessment Questions

What are your passions?
At what times in your life did you feel the most energetic and engaged?
What are your talents and abilities?
What types of activities - both work and play - do you like and dislike?
What strengths do you have that you can contribute to the workplace?
What are challenges that might keep you from succeeding at work?
What personal characteristics make you unique from a workplace point of view?
What is your definition of success?

How do you interact with people?
What is your learning style?
Do you prefer thinking or doing?
Do you like working alone or in teams?
Do you prefer working with people or information?
What traits do you have that make you a good leader?
What types of responsibilities do you typically like? Which do you avoid?
What management style do you work best with?
Do you prefer a diversity of job tasks or an established routine?

What values are most important to you in a career?
What type of work environment do you prefer?
What type of work do you like to do?
What do you want out of a career?
What fields and industries interest you the most?
What geographic area(s) do you want to live and work in after graduation?
What are your priorities and objectives for the next 3 - 5 years?

Typical MBA Career Fields and Industries

Finance: Investment Banking, Corporate Finance, Financial Sales, Venture Capital, Banking, Auditing

Marketing: Product Management, Brand Management, Market Analysis, Market Research, Sales, Advertising, Public Relations, Communications & Media, Customer Relations

Consulting: Internal consulting, Organizational Development, Information Technology Consulting, Healthcare Consulting

Information Technology: Systems Analysis, Security, Database Administration
Healthcare: Pharmaceutical Sales, Healthcare Administration, Biotechnology

Real Estate: Asset Management, Commercial Real Estate, Property Management, Investment Trusts, Construction Firms

