

Execute Your Plan

Now that you have a career plan, it's time to identify career opportunities that are strong matches for your skills and interests and that can help you reach your career goals.

When you find an opportunity that interests you, think about what you can offer the hiring organization. Remember, managers hire people to solve problems and help accomplish organizational objectives. It is important for you to understand the organization's objectives and to be ready to position yourself as someone who can help achieve them.

To learn about the organization's objectives, talk to people who work in the organization or in similar ones. Get information on what the organization wants to accomplish and what challenges it faces in reaching its goals. Find out what makes a person successful in that organization. Does this match your abilities? Are you interested in this kind of work? In other words, would you make a good match for this organization's needs and would a job there be a good match for your interests and abilities?

Once you have identified a number of good matches, you can create a strategy for presenting yourself as a candidate for openings in these organizations. Here are some steps you can take:

- Make sure your resume is current and reflects your skills and abilities in the best possible way
- Take advantage of opportunities to network with managers from your targeted organizations.