

O*NET® Career Exploration Tools

The O*NET® Career Exploration Tools are a suite of assessment instruments designed for career counseling, career planning, and career exploration. These tools are designed to assist a wide variety of individuals in gaining personal insights that will help them to identify occupations that they might find satisfying.

- The O*NET[®] Interest Profiler[™] (paper-and-pencil and computerized versions) helps people discover the type of work activities and tasks that they would enjoy on the job. They can then identify the occupations that most closely match their primary interests.
- The O*NET® Work Importance Locator™ and O*NET® Work Importance Profiler™ (paper-and-pencil and computerized versions, respectively) help clarify what people find most important in jobs. They can then identify O*NET occupations that they are likely to find satisfying, based on the similarity between what is important to them in a job and the characteristics of the occupations.
- The O*NET® Ability Profiler™ is an assessment developed for counseling and career exploration that measures nine job-relevant abilities. Its customized score reports can help people explore the world of work by comparing their abilities to the abilities necessary to perform different occupations. Knowing their relative strengths can help them decide what kinds of jobs and careers they want to explore and identify areas where they might want to pursue more education and training.

Students and others new to the job market can use these tools to explore career possibilities. These tools also can help workers facing career transitions to expand their range of potential employment options. Individuals may link to information on more than 900 occupations described in the O*NET database via O*NET OnLine (http://online.onetcenter.org) on the Internet. O*NET OnLine also links to America's Career InfoNet (www.careerinfonet.org), thereby allowing individuals to relate their assessment results to the requirements of occupations in the labor market. These tools also can be used with a number of public and private career and workforce information systems that have integrated O*NET information.

Use of a variety of tools supports the whole-person approach to assessment, providing a firmer basis for individuals to make important career decisions. In addition, the O*NET Career Exploration Tools were designed so that individuals could take one or more of these assessments, based on their particular needs. The O*NET® Interest Profiler, O*NET® Work Importance Locator and the O*NET® Ability Profiler are available for purchase from the Government Printing Office (GPO) at: http://bookstore.gpo.gov/. To download the O*NET Career Exploration Tools, visit http://www.onetcenter.org.

The O*NET® Career Exploration Tools adhere to the highest standards of pertinent national professional associations. They were developed in a multi-year collaboration among State agencies, public and private consulting firms, workforce development organizations, and the public. Further information, including detailed descriptions of each set of tools, is available on the website at www.onetcenter.org.