

STRATEGIES FOR CAREER SUCCESS



Welcome to **Strategies for Career Success** newsletter by Pathways Career Success Strategies.

Every other month we offer effective strategies to assist you in your career development or job search.

If you haven't already subscribed to our free bi-monthly newsletter, sign-up today!

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Coming in September:

- Speed up your job search
- Reward yourself
- Is your career a good fit?
- Building your network
- How to find a mentor

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Nontraditional Careers

Many of us still hold stereotypes of what is considered 'women's work' and 'men's work.' Not that long ago it was uncommon to see a male nurse. Some of us may still do a double take when we happen to see one. Women and men are breaking down the barriers and exploring nontraditional careers.

Looking for something different?

Are you a woman who yearns for a challenge? Are you a man who has an interest in helping people or working with kids? If you're bored with your current career, consider investigating a nontraditional occupation, i.e., a career where less than 25% of the workforce is comprised of one gender.

Benefits of nontraditional

Nontraditional jobs for women typically pay higher wages, oftentimes 25-30% higher, than the work women traditionally pursue. Men and women may choose to get into nontraditional work because it's work they find appealing.

Nontraditional jobs for women

Examples of nontraditional work for women include:

- Air traffic controller
- Computer software engineer
- Correctional officer
- Machinist
- Architect

Nontraditional jobs for men

Nontraditional occupations for men include:

- Special education teacher
- Paralegal
- Registered nurse
- Speech language pathologist

Challenges for women

Women face many challenges when entering a male-dominated environment. "Men tend to view women as not being mechanically inclined," says Dawn Rogers, a 20+ year veteran of working in engineering, a nontraditional occupation. Rogers adds, "After working in a field with basically only men, I can say that as a fact." "I've seen and heard them remark about it. But if you prove yourself, people will give the respect that you deserve, whether you're a woman or a man."

Resources

- www.mnwfc.org
- www.work4women.org
- www.tradeswomen.org
- www.witi.org
- www.nawic.com

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

Tired of working for someone else?
Worried about getting laid off?

If so, use your years of experience to become a consultant. Consulting can be very exciting, and profitable too!

Types of consultants

Consultants work in many different fields. Below are a few different types of consultants:

- Computer consultant
- Wedding planner
- Web design consultant
- Human Resource Consultant
- Professional Organizer

Do you have what it takes?

Successful entrepreneurs have several characteristics in common. They include:

- Being a calculated risk taker
- Highly motivated
- Integrity and follow-through
- Being disciplined
- Highly innovative

You don't have to be born with these traits. You can develop them over time with desire and hard work.

Resources

Use the following resources to help you start your consulting business:

www.score.org
www.sba.gov
www.womenventure.org

Or check with your local university extension office.

To learn how to capture local and national attention for your consulting business, check with us at:
www.pathwayscareer.com

Coming this Fall

The following workshops are scheduled at various locations throughout Western Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota. Check out our Web site for further information.

- Career Management for the 21st Century
- Salary, Perks, and Raises: Negotiate to Get Paid What You're Worth!
- Unleash the Power of Publicity: A Marketing Strategy for the Independent Business Owner

Between outsourcing and offshoring, more and more workers are losing their jobs to workers in foreign countries. It started with manufacturing jobs. Next came computer programming jobs. More recently jobs in the financial service industry have headed offshore.

Why offshore?

Employees at Kodak Eastman have been hit hard with lay offs. The Rochester New York-based company has shipped some of their work to India and Mexico. In response to rapid technological change and foreign competition, Kodak and other companies across America have moved work overseas to remain profitable.

Wages in other countries are much lower than here on U.S. soil and some companies are unable to find the skills they need here. These are some of the reasons leading to the exodus.



How can you be proactive?

While nothing is a guarantee, it's important to be proactive in managing your career. Below are some tips to help you manage your career:

- Keep your résumé up-to-date
- Periodically brush up on your interviewing skills
- Continue to learn new skills
- Volunteer for projects at work
- Gain leadership and management skills
- Continue to build your network

The above skills may help you maintain your job or allow you to be prepared should a lay-off occur.

Source: Reader's Digest, July 2004

"Your imagination is a preview of life's coming attractions."

-Albert Einstein