

Evaluating Climate-Critical Careers

Opening Activity: Who Am I?

What careers sounded most interesting during this exercise?

The Big Question

How do I evaluate which climate-critical roles would best fit me?

My Climate Goals

When you complete this lesson, you'll be able to:

1. Identify career categories and specific occupations in clean energy and climate technology
2. Describe how your interests, skills, desired training, career goals, and work environment preferences affect determining the right career fit
3. Recognize the growing demand and opportunity of climate-critical careers.

Notes:

Find Your Place in Clean Energy

Instructions

There are six primary factors to consider when evaluating the fit of a career:

- **Skills** (What am I good at?)
- **Interests** (What excites me?)
- **Work environment** (What kind of setting do I work best in?)
- **Values** (What motivates me?)
- **Growth potential** (What do I want to accomplish?)
- **Salary** (How much do I need to earn?)

Use the information below, your experience, and your reflections to complete this worksheet and create a profile for potential careers of interest.

These are six of the most in-demand skills for clean energy jobs:

- **Problem-solving:** identifying challenges, thinking critically, and developing effective solutions.
- **Technical aptitude:** comfortable using tools, technology, or software to complete tasks and analyze data.
- **Communication skills:** clearly explaining ideas, listening well to others, and collaborating effectively.
- **Adaptability:** adjusting to new situations, technological changes, or unexpected challenges with flexibility.
- **Teamwork:** working well with others to achieve a common goal, valuing others' input, and supporting group efforts.
- **Analytical thinking:** evaluating information, interpreting data, and making informed decisions based on evidence.

Examples of **interests**: hands-on work, investigating, creating, building relationships, leading others, organization, being helpful, or physical work.

Examples of **values**: feeling accomplished, working independently, being recognized, having strong relationships, being supported, or having a flexible work environment.

Notes:

Profile Prompts

Answer the questions below to begin developing a profile for possible careers in clean energy. Revisit this profile throughout the remaining lessons to evaluate which careers might be a good fit for you. Remember, it's okay that your answers will change over time!

Skills and strengths: What am I good at?

Interests: What excites me? What makes me curious?

Work environment: What kind of setting do I work best in?

Values: What motivates me?

Are there any environments or situations I want to avoid?

What areas of clean energy or climate technology interest me the most?

What are three climate-critical careers I want to learn more about? What do I want to know?

Lesson Key Points

- Understand that your career fit matters.
- Clean energy careers are diverse and interconnected.
- Personal reflection is an important part of career exploration.
- The clean energy transition needs many different skill sets.

Additional key points:

Closing Activity

How do your skills, interests, values, and work environment preferences influence how you think about possible career paths?

What are two categories of climate-critical careers you want to learn more about?

Careers of interest you heard about in this lesson: