

# ESSA Training Kit

## Career Awareness for College Planning

### Lesson 5

This kit was developed from out of sessions IDRA has led through our Texas Education CAFE Network work, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Family groups had expressed concern that students seemed to only have two or three ideas of possible college degrees and possible careers. This session helps students and families learn about different professions that are available to youths especially for who are attending college for the first time.

See overview article, “Expanding Career Awareness for College... Especially for First-timers,” by Aurelio M. Montemayor, M.Ed.

**Preparation:** Create a packet with information from the Common Jobs for Majors website (<https://www.payscale.com/college-salary-report/common-jobs-for-majors>) listing each of the nine disciplines, 25 specific jobs within each and the projected annual salary. Pull the list of job titles, translate them into participants’ language(s), and print and cut them into individual slips of paper.



#### Welcome and Introduction

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Describe goals for the session. Have participants introduce themselves and state one thing they hope to learn more about.



#### Job Title Comparisons

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Distribute the job title slips randomly among the participants, two to three per person. Ask them to guess the annual salary for those positions and to write them on the papers.

Hand out the packet or use computers. Have participants search for their job titles and compare their salary estimates with those listed.



#### Think-Pair-Share

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Have participants compare what they found in pairs. Report out highlights and point out commonalities



#### Small Groups

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Invite participants to compare salaries across disciplines. Have them do online searches to locate job descriptions and information on what the jobs entail. Ask what kind of courses a college student would have to take to be prepared for a specific job.

Materials for this kit are online at: <https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>

Encourage groups to create posters of the professions and job descriptions they chose. Have them include:

- Two professions that sound interesting.
- Two professions that they'd never heard of until today.
- Two professions that seem the most puzzling or foreign.



## Large Group

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Report out and have each group share their posters. Point out common themes and outliers.

Ask: **Are your students taking the courses they need for a profession that interests them?**

Discuss ways to make changes to student graduation plans if needed. Strategies will vary depending on the age of the students, careers of interest, state graduation requirements, etc.



## Closing

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Encourage families to take their packets home and follow up with conversations and more online searches.

Invite parents to the next session and advise them of the next Annual IDRA La Semana del Niño Parent Institute.

### Learn about IDRA's Education CAFES – Community Action Forums for Excellence

Grounded in IDRA's Family Leadership in Education framework, an Education CAFE is a parent group that is rooted in a community-based organization, rather than in a single school. And its sole purpose is to collaborate with schools to improve the success of students in the community. With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, IDRA is establishing a Texas Education CAFE Network of community-based family and educator groups that help inform public education policies and practices related to implementation of ESSA.

<https://budurl.me/2-IDRAedCAFE>

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