



Challenge # 7

Applying to Your Dream Job

Due Tuesday, May 5

This challenge focuses on career exploration in the solar, water, and transportation fields. The goal of this challenge is to take the skills you have learned so far in your educational experiences, especially from the Solar Cup, and imagine how they can be applied to a dream career.

You will have the opportunity to fast forward a few years and think about additional skills you will need for a job in one of these sectors. Remember to think outside the box! There are many different career possibilities that work towards advancing the solar, water and transportation sectors ranging from STEM based technicians or researchers to social media and communications, graphic design, activism, education, and more.

Challenge details:

Create a career map imagining the next five years after your high school experience. Reflect on your current skills, experiences and passions and think about what additional skills and experiences you will need to reach your career goals.

- **Complete Part 1**
 - Explore job postings to find a dream position in each of the fields outlined below. Answer the questions in the attached worksheet.
- **Complete Part 2**
 - Now that you have explored different jobs and discovered three different dream positions, you will create a career plan using the template in the attached worksheet.

Job Exploration Tips and Tools:

Types of jobs: *Remember that a job in solar doesn't just mean you are installing panels. There are so many different types of opportunities in all of these fields, including:*

- Project Coordinator
- Technician
- Engineer
- Graphic Designer

Company examples: *These career pages are a great place to start your exploration.*

Solar	Transportation	Water
SunPower	Los Angeles Metro	Metropolitan Water District
GRID Alternatives	Tesla	Work for Water
Climate Corps (all industries)	California Air Resources Board	HDR
Inspire	HopSkipDrive	Heal the Bay
Southern California Edison	Waze	Friends of the LA River
Engie	Canoo	LA Waterkeeper

Additional Resources: *You can also use these job search engines to find additional jobs within these sectors:*

- [LinkedIn](#): LinkedIn offers a job page where you can explore current job postings.
- [Glassdoor](#): Basic job search engine. You can use this to search by industry- Solar, Transportation, and Water.
- [Indeed](#): Basic job search engine. You can use this to search by industry- Solar, Transportation, and Water.

Job Description Breakdown: *As you explore career pages and job postings, you will see the following elements in the descriptions. We have outlined what to look for below when exploring these postings.*

- **Company Description:** Make sure to take some time to explore the company's values, mission, and vision. Find a company whose values align with yours and a place you could see yourself working. For example, you are passionate about the environment and the company aligns its values to mitigate the company's carbon footprint.
- **Summary of Role:** Most job posts will outline the position and provide a summary. This is very important! You may have never heard of a *Solar Site Surveyor*, but after reading the summary of the role you could see this as your dream job!
- **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:** This section of the job post dives a little deeper into the position and will outline the role's specific responsibilities. Again pay close attention to this section. Do these tasks sound like something you could see yourself doing one day?
- **Experience and Educational Requirements:**
 - **Minimum Qualifications:** These are qualifications you need to have to be hired. For most positions, you will not be considered if you do not meet these qualifications.
 - **Preferred Qualifications:** These are not required, but will help make you a better candidate!

Complete the attached worksheets and career map and send it to Julie Miller Kalbacher at jamiller@mwdh2o.com Make sure to include your name and school name on your responses. This activity is worth 100 points. You will earn points based on completing each question with thought and detail.



Part 1: Answer the questions for a job listing in each category: Solar, Water, and Transportation

Dream position in the SOLAR industry

1. Describe the job position in your own words. (Include the position title and organization ~2-3 sentences)

2. What do you like about this job? (2-3 sentences)

3. What skills and experiences do you need to get this job? (list below)

Dream position in the TRANSPORTATION industry

1. Describe the job position in your own words. (Include the position title and organization ~2-3 sentences)

2. What do you like about this job? (2-3 sentences)

3. What skills and experiences do you need to get this job? (list below)

Dream Position in the WATER industry

1. Describe the job position in your own words. (Include the position title and organization ~2-3 sentences)

2. What do you like about this job? (2-3 sentences)

3. What skills and experiences do you need to get this job? (list below)



Part 2: Select one of your dream jobs in Part 1 to write about your future career plan in the table. You can continue to come back to this template to map out your career plan in the future.

Category	Present to end of high school career	Future: The five years after high school
Education:	<i>What classes have you taken, and what did you learn from them?</i>	<i>What type of degree or certificate do you want to achieve for your career path?</i>
Internships		
Volunteer positions		
Experiences: <i>Clubs, projects, extracurricular, jobs, travels, etc.</i>		
Skills: <i>Languages, computer skills, communication skills, art and design</i>	<i>What skills have you gained from everything you've listed?</i>	<i>What skills do you hope to attain and build?</i>