

Major & Career Exploration

Career Assessment Tools

Maryville College uses the Focus2 Career Assessment tool to Support students in the Major & Career Exploration process.



What is Focus2?

Focus2 is a **career assessment tool** used to investigate majors, explore career options, and make career plans throughout your career. Completing the Focus2 Assessment is a Maryville College Works requirement completed in the first year.

What is a career assessment?

Career assessments help you:

- Identify what might impact your success and satisfaction in a given career
- Explore career options that match your preferences
- Discover what career path might be best for you!

Where can I find the Focus2 Assessment?

Log in to [Handshake](#) and find the [Focus2 portal](#) in the [Resource Library](#).

Explore more!

The Career Center can provide additional assessments to help you make the best decision for your future and learn more about what is available to you. The [VIA Character Assessment](#) is free and can help you explore your major and career in additional ways. If you need assistance interpreting results, please [schedule an appointment](#) with the Career Center.

These assessments are also available at the Career Center upon request: [StrengthsQuest](#) and [Strong Interest Inventory](#).

Informational Interviewing

What is Informational Interviewing?

An informational interview is a meeting or conversation that is different than a job interview. This interviewing provides an opportunity to get information from a current industry professional to help you make informed decisions and progress on your career path.

Why is Informational Interviewing Important?

Informational Interviewing offers you an opportunity to seek information and advice from a professional in the field in which you are interested. It can also open doors to future career possibilities! The connections you make doing informational interviews can come in handy when seeking an internship or a job. Informational interviews also increase your professional network of contacts. You can conduct an informational interview in person, over the phone, via email, or on LinkedIn. Whatever format works best for the parties involved!

Career Exploration Resources

Glassdoor

[Glassdoor](#) is the fastest-growing jobs and recruiting site. Glassdoor holds a growing database of more than 8 million company reviews, CEO approval ratings, salary reports, interview reviews and questions, benefits reviews, office photos, and more!

GovLoop

[GovLoop](#) is the premier online community connecting over 200,000 government innovators from federal, state, and local governments. GovLoop's mission is to "connect government to improve government."

Campus Career Coach Professional Associations

The [Campus Career Coach](#) has a list of professional associations in various industries. Joining a professional organization can increase your network by 1,000's, connect you to exclusive job postings, and keep you informed about the latest industry news!

PEN AMERICA

[Pen America](#) is a community of over 4,400 writers working to bring down barriers to free expression worldwide and showcase the literary, journalist, and artistic achievements made possible through creative freedom.

Princeton Review Grad School Search

The [Princeton Review](#) has been the destination for college and graduates school-bound students to make their dreams a reality. It offers online and in-person tutoring and test prep from top-notch educators.

Pay Scale

[PayScale](#) uses crowdsourcing and big data technologies to compile the world's largest database of 54 million individual salary profiles.

Zippia

[Zippia](#) search engine helps you find new career options. Search by your major or desired industry and see who would be interested in hiring someone with your credentials.

Vault

[Vault](#) provides in-depth intelligence on what it's like to work within an industry, company, or profession—and how to position yourself to launch and build the career you want.

O*Net

[O*Net](#) is a free online database that contains hundreds of occupational definitions to help students, job seekers, businesses, and workforce development professionals understand today's world of work in the United States.

Blount Partnership Chamber of Commerce

The [Blount Chamber](#) explores local businesses that will give you internship experience during the school semester. They also host a [local job board](#) for students who want to stay in the Blount County area post-graduation.

USA Jobs

[USA Jobs](#) is a web-based job board enabling federal job seekers access to thousands of job opportunities across hundreds of federal agencies and

organizations. It provides a public notice for federal employment opportunities.

Alliance for Better Nonprofits

This [Alliance for Better Nonprofits](#) connects its members to nonprofit peers, leaders, and experts and the foundations, philanthropists, agencies, and university partners committed to making the community stronger through better nonprofits.

Idealist

[Idealist](#) connects idealists – people who want to do good – with opportunities for action and collaboration and helps purpose-driven professionals find land, and love their social impact jobs.

Salary.com

[Salary.com](#) offers resources related to salaries, industry trends, and negotiation of pay and benefits.