

Career Routes

Compare sectors, research requirements, and plan a pathway.

CE.14.h “researching jobs and careers in the public and private sector and understanding the pathways to various careers.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each public-sector career, circle each private-sector career, and number the pathway steps in the second paragraph to show the order a student could follow.

Where Careers Begin

- ① Jobs exist in both the public and private sectors. The public sector includes organizations run by government and paid for mainly with tax money. A city water-treatment operator, a public-school counselor, and a state park ranger serve the public through government agencies. The private sector includes businesses owned by individuals, groups, or shareholders. A veterinary technician at an animal clinic, a web designer at a software company, and a grocery store manager work for private employers. Both sectors need trained workers.
- ② Career pathways are the education, training, and experiences that prepare a person for work. For example, a student interested in water treatment can take science classes, earn a high school diploma, complete technical training, and apply to a local government utility. A future veterinary technician can study biology, finish an approved two-year program, pass any required credentialing exam, and seek work at a private clinic. Requirements can differ by state and employer, so careful research matters.
- ③ Useful career research goes beyond a job title. A student can compare a government agency's job posting with a business's posting to find duties, education, pay range, schedule, and application steps. Official agency websites, community college program pages, and interviews with workers are stronger sources than an unsourced social media post. Before choosing a pathway, students should check whether the job is public or private, identify required qualifications, and plan a next step that fits their interests and resources.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

Why is a city water-treatment operator a public-sector career, according to the passage?

2

List the four pathway steps given for a student interested in water treatment.

3

What sector employs a veterinary technician in the passage, and what is one training or qualification step for that career?

4

Name two stronger research sources from the passage. Then name one type of information a job posting can help a student find.

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Research one public-sector career and one private-sector career that interest you. Fill in the table with two pathway steps for each career and a reliable source you could use to check the information.

CAREER	SECTOR	TWO PATHWAY STEPS	RELIABLE SOURCE

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each public-sector career, circle each private-sector career, and number the pathway steps in the second paragraph to show the order a student could follow. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why is a city water-treatment operator a public-sector career, according to the passage?	The operator serves the public through a government agency or local government utility.
2	List the four pathway steps given for a student interested in water treatment.	Take science classes, earn a high school diploma, complete technical training, and apply to a local government utility.
3	What sector employs a veterinary technician in the passage, and what is one training or qualification step for that career?	Private sector. Answers may include study biology, complete an approved two-year program, or pass a required credentialing exam.
4	Name two stronger research sources from the passage. Then name one type of information a job posting can help a student find.	Any two: official agency websites, community college program pages, interviews with workers. A posting can provide duties, education, pay range, schedule, or application steps.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

CAREER	SECTOR	TWO PATHWAY STEPS	RELIABLE SOURCE
Public-school counselor	Public	Earn a bachelor's degree; earn a master's degree and state credential	State education department website
Web developer	Private	Learn coding; build a portfolio	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook

Accept careers that are accurately classified and pathways that are reasonable for the selected career. Reliable sources may include government agencies, accredited college program pages, professional organizations, or employer job postings.