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| **CAREER DECISION-MAKING MODEL** |
| **STEP 1: IDENTIFY THE DECISION TO BE MADE** |
| Before you begin gathering information, you need to have a clear understanding of what it is you are trying to decide. Some decisions you might be facing could include: |
| 1. What will I choose for a college major? |
| 1. What do I want to do after graduation? |
| **STEP 2: KNOW YOURSELF (SELF-ASSESSMENT)** |
| Before you begin exploring college majors and careers which will prove satisfying, you must understand yourself: your skills, interests, values, and personality characteristics. Areas to consider include: |
| **SKILLS** |
| 1. What are my strengths and weaknesses? |
| 1. What skills do I need to develop? |
| **INTERESTS** |
| 1. What am I interested in doing? |
| 1. What activities do I like the most? |
| **VALUES** |
| 1. What is important to me in a career? |
| 1. In what ways must I be challenged and rewarded? |
| **PERSONALITY** |
| 1. What personal qualities do I possess that will help me in the classroom? |
| **STEP 3: BEGIN IDENTIFYING OPTIONS (CAREER EXPLORATION)** |
| To continue gathering information and researching careers, you will need to start identifying options. Questions you might ask yourself at this point are: |
| 1. At this point in time, what college majors and career paths am I considering? |
| 1. What other types of options am I considering? |
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| **STEP 4: GATHER INFORMATION** |
| If you completed the first three steps, you should have a list of majors and careers that you plan to explore and research in more depth. You will now: |
| 1. Examine the information and resources you already have. |
| 1. Seek out and use new information. |
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| **STEP 5: EVALUATE OPTIONS** |
| If you have completed your career research, you are now ready to evaluate each of the options you have identified: |
| 1. Identify the pros and cons of each college major/career. |
| 1. Explore how each major/career relates to your interests, skills, and values. |
| 1. Think about the probable future consequences of each major or career choice. |
| **STEP 6: SELECT ONE OF THE OPTIONS** |
| Based on the information you have gathered you should now be able to choose one of the options. |
| Do you have enough information to choose one option over another? If not, you might need to do more research. |
| **STEP 7: MAKE A PLAN AND IMPLEMENT THE DECISION** |
| Having chosen one of the options, you can begin developing and implementing a plan of action. Ask yourself: |
| 1. What do you need to follow through on your decision? |
| 2. What are the obstacles to implementing your decision and how can you overcome them? |