

## Career Resources

Wheaton Academy offers resources to help students discover gifts and interests and to explore possible career areas. We believe it is important for our students to explore various options and consider their possible life calling in the world of work.

As we encourage our students to discover their interests and develop an excitement about their life calling, we want them to keep a balanced perspective. Some may feel a high degree of certainty regarding a career or college major. Others, however, will approach the college years with less certainty about a major or career. Regarding the choice of a college, we want them to understand that either is okay, and “the college major” may or may not be a significant factor in finding the college that’s the best fit.

The fact is that most college students change majors – the average is said to be about two and a half times. And the average person is projected to have ten different jobs in three different career areas over a lifetime. So the choice of a college should be mainly based on the fit between the student and the college – finding an environment where the student is most likely to thrive and, in the process of thriving, find something he or she is passionate about studying and *doing*.

Here are some of the career resources we make available at Wheaton Academy.

### **Naviance Family Connection**

Naviance Family Connection provides some excellent career resources. Every Wheaton Academy family has access to Naviance through the WA website. Here are the career resources available to you in Naviance:

*StrengthsExplorer* is a Gallup instrument to help you uncover your talents and reveal your potential strengths.

*Do What You Are* is an interactive student version of the Myers-Briggs Personality Inventory which should take you less than ten minutes to complete. When you finish, you’ll immediately get your results: a fascinating description of your personality type, along with careers that may be a good choice for you.

*Learning Style Inventory* will help you discover your learning and working style.

*Cluster Finder* is a resource that allows you to explore careers in sixteen different clusters. Nearly 100 careers are listed, along with job outlook data, starting salaries, qualifications, and descriptions of the types of activities the job entails.

*Career Interest Profiler* is a tool that can help you discover the types of work activities and careers that match your interests.

*MI Advantage* will help you uncover your intelligence profile by asking about your abilities and preferences in different areas.

## **Outside resources**

Looking for something more comprehensive? An organization in Glen Ellyn – **Career Vision** – provides a wealth of resources for career assessment and planning. The website is [www.careervision.org](http://www.careervision.org) and phone is 630-469-8378.

**The Highlands Ability Battery** is available through Tom Gill in Wheaton (father-in-law to a Wheaton Academy graduate). This ability battery is a three-hour online test that provides useful feedback on a student's natural abilities and how to use them most effectively. The website is [www.thomasmgillandassociates.com](http://www.thomasmgillandassociates.com) and the phone number is 630-632-4208.

## **Books**

Our College Counseling office has several books to help you think about careers, majors, and strengths. These books can be checked out through Mr. Crabtree.

### ***The College Board Book of Majors***

This comprehensive resource lists 900 majors and the colleges that offer those majors.

### ***How to Get Any Job with Any Major*** by Donald Asher

This excellent book provides good perspective on the choice of a college major.

### ***10 Best College Majors for Your Personality*** by Laurence Shatkin

This book, part of the Jist series, provides information on matching personality to majors.

### ***Now, Discover Your Strengths*** by Marcus Buckingham and Donald Clifton

This book helps the reader identify talents and build them into strengths. It is tied to the Strengthsfinder Profile.

### ***The On My Own Handbook*** by Bobb Biehl

This Christian-based book focuses on a young person's transition from living at home to being on his/her own.

The College Counseling library also has other publications that deal with various aspects of majors, careers, and life preparation.