

Career Guidance and Counselling is a comprehensive, developmental program designed to assist individuals in making and implementing informed educational and occupational choices.

The Ministry of Education realized that students need career guidance and counselling in order to achieve optimum gains in their varied life situations.

A career guidance and counselling program develops an individual's competencies in self-knowledge, educational and occupational exploration, and career planning.

Career guidance and counselling programs help students acquire the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to identify options, explore alternatives and succeed in their career path.

It is clear that students have different dreams but they cannot logically explain why they want to take that path or how to get there.

The programme tends to help students in secondary schools to see a variety of available academic options that would help them through their preferred learning styles, and be helped to find how to develop plans to reach their educational and occupational goals.

Aim

The aim of Career Guidance and Counselling is to empower students discover and pursue a path to fulfilling careers, so they can make their own unique marks on the world.

Recognizing that career development is a life-long process, Career Guidance and Counselling aims at educating and supporting students as they explore and further understand themselves and career options, gain valuable experience, develop as professionals and launch their post-graduation career plans.

Goals and objectives of career guidance

Goal One: Academic Achievement

To enhance student achievement to reach requirements for high school graduation and post-secondary success; school counselors will provide individual and/or small group counseling, classroom guidance, prevention education and student-centered interventions.

Goal Two: Personal and Social Development

To promote the personal/social development of students in a safe, inclusive learning environment; school advisors will provide individual and/or small group counseling, classroom guidance, prevention education and student-centered interventions that help students thrive in a safe learning environment.

Goal 3: Workplace Readiness/Career Awareness:

To provide a foundation for students to understand their interests, abilities and challenges; school advisors will provide prevention education, individual/small group counseling, classroom guidance and student-centered interventions that allow students to develop their personal learning plan for high graduation and their career pathway; to link their academic strengths and trainings; and to develop productive work habits in the classroom that apply to the workforce.

The ultimate goal of career guidance is to contribute to the holistic development of young people, supporting their transition to the world of work and decision making as they strive for improvement throughout their lives. It can also help youth better define their dreams and interests and the importance of staying in school or participate in their communities.

The importance of Career guidance and Counselling in Rwanda.

In Rwandan schools, Career guidance and Counselling is needed for the following reasons:

- a) To broaden one's perspective
- b) To get a clear roadmap.
- c) To reduce emotional influence of parents, peers, etc. on students' choices of their future career

- d) To identify one's strengths, weaknesses, interest, competencies, skills and knowledge
- e) Enables students to acquire attitudes and values that are essential for their future career.
- f) To allow students make the right decision
- g) To build interpersonal effectiveness
- h) To curb the mismatch between the labour market changes and educational programs.

How can students get career guidance and counselling?

Career coaching or counselling does not necessarily require professional counsellors but it can also be done as mentioned below:

Be your own career coach: -You can analyze your interest; capabilities; and career options available as per your interests and education qualification to find your career goals and help yourself in achieving them.

Seek advice from your parents –Your parents have been the primary coach for your education and career life.

Proper guidance from your teachers – The third person after you and your parents who will be able to help you decide the best alternative to a career is your teacher.

A career coach in your friends or your elder siblings – Your friends or your siblings know your interests because you can open up before them without an uneasiness which you may feel with your parents or your teachers.

Conclusion: Students, as well as their parents, should begin career planning preferable from senior one because, after this level, only a particular stream could be followed and career options will be limited to their choice of the stream only. For more information: www.gostudy.net.



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CAREER GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING

An Engineer uses the design process...



THE GOOD CHOICE, THE BETTER FUTURE ✓✓✓✓