

Career Development

As we go along in our life, our career plans keep on changing as careers do not follow a predictable path. Our plans for future have to be flexible to adapt to changes according to the market needs, the economy, demands of globalization, company priorities and required job skills.

In the current state of economic turmoils, the best possible way in career planning would be to embrace a positive, flexible and forward-looking attitude. Be prepared for a job at any place in the world. The apparent negativities, such as, downsizing, recession and slow development of projects can be transformed into new opportunities and new opportunities for personal growth, if we are flexible.

What you need is to have a focused career agenda that would include the following aspects:

- * Your values
- * Skills you already have and skills you want to acquire
- *A goal of where you want to be in the next 5 years
- * Financial plans for about the next 3 years
- *Geographic preferences
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Career management does not end once you secure a job. It should be a continuing endeavour. Once you are on the job, take control of your career. Seek advice from your mentors, seniors, peers and colleagues. Only you can decide what paths and choices would be best for you. You need to discover what training and education will enhance your values and give you satisfaction. Part of a career planning is determining what field you might like to work in.

Talking specifically about the domain of Chemical Engineering, you would find a wide range of careers in this vast arena. You may choose any one of such job profiles or you may go for one of the several cross functional jobs. Many factors, i.e., salary, location, size of a company, opportunity for advancement, scope of work, projects, educational support, etc., should be considered while searching for a position.

In any market, networking is an excellent way to discover job opportunities. IChE, with its enviable portfolio of Membership, that includes the crème of Chemical Engineering fraternity, could be your ideal portal for networking with a view to enriching your career prospects.

Students are always a priority for IChE. We are constantly trying to reach out to the students, devising various plans and projects for their career advancement and skill enhancement. Besides holding regular workshops, seminars, conferences, competition, and so on all across the country, we are initiating a number of new drives for them every now and then. We would keep on informing about these drives through our Website as well as through our Student Chapters and Regional Centres. **Be with IChE !**