# Activity: Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down

For this activity, use what you have learned in the Lesson, Earning Power, to thoughtfully identify potential job or career options that match your criteria for financial goals and desired lifestyle.

Add this decision summary to your personal financial planning portfolio to track your progress towards achieving your educational and career goals.

### Directions:

1. Apply what you have learned about criterion-based decision making as you complete this challenge. Review the six DECIDE from the Course, Money Management; Lesson, Decisions, to guide your work.
2. Use the chart below or create a document to summarize your decision-making process. Take into consideration your current circumstances and values. Ask for input from someone who knows you well enough to discuss your likes and dislikes as well as your values, aptitudes, and personality characteristics.
3. Self-assess your work using the Scoring Guide. Consider asking a friend or family member to assess your work.

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|  | **DECIDE Steps** | **My Situation** |
| 1 | Define your goal. |       |
| 2 | Establish your criteria. |       |
| 3 | Choose three good options. |       |       |       |
| 4 | Identify the pros and cons of the options. |       |       |       |
| 5 | Decide what’s best. |       |
| 6 | Evaluate the results. |        |

# Scoring Guide: Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down

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| **Required Criteria** | **Status** |
| Content |
| 1. | In one sentence you state what you want to achieve as a result of the decision-making process. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 2. | Outcome involves a major decision related to a future career path. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 3. | You justify how the decision and outcome relates to your current circumstances and values. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 4. | Summary lists at least six criteria for an acceptable outcome, including the features or circumstances you absolutely must have as well as those you would like to have or will not accept. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| **Option Status Rating Key: “A” = Acceptable / “NA” = Not Acceptable** | Option A | Option B | Option C |
| 5. | Summary includes details about three possible options. |  |  |  |
| 6. | You devise a way to illustrate how well each option matches your criteria. |  |  |  |
| 7. | You point out the option that you have chosen. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 8. | You justify why the chosen option was selected. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 9. | Your choice is logical based on the known circumstances, stated criteria, and potential to achieve the desired outcome. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 10. | You summarize what you do and don’t like about your choice and justify any modifications that were made in the purpose, criteria, or options. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| General |
| 11. | Content is clearly stated with distinct detail. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 12. | Documentation is neat and easy to read. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |
| 13. | Information about the options is accurate or can be verified. | [ ]  acceptable [ ]  not acceptable |

Totals:

 Acceptable Not Acceptable

Feedback: