Some of you have known what you wanted to be when you grow up for years. The rest of you are probably not even sure what your major will be in college — let alone your career! And that’s OK. We’re here to help. Follow these steps to find the right career and how to get started!

Follow your passion
Career decisions should be in line with your interests — not necessarily with the hottest new career in the field. Consider this: 30 percent of entering freshmen dropout, the average completion of a college degree now takes six years and 64 percent of employees under the age of 25 are unhappy in their jobs.

That’s why John Strelecky, author of “The Why Café,” says “you have to find a heart connection to a job.” Maybe you don’t have one area of interest. That’s OK, too. Take as many different classes as you can. Backpack around the world. Take a semester at sea. Try out lots of options and find one that you’re most interested in.

Find your fit factor
Finding the right career fit goes beyond passion. You have to consider what you want to be doing and what you are good at, says Jim Beqaj, a recruiting consultant, career coach and author of “How to Hire the Perfect Employer.” You have to have the skills to succeed. So try this exercise. If you could create a job for yourself that would leave you challenged but also satisfied, what would it be?

Tie it together
Once you figure out your passion and how that fits into the working world, it’s time to work toward that career. Apply to internships and jobs in those fields and at specific companies that need what you’re good at. Distinguish yourself from the other applicants by talking about your fit and your passion. Talk about why you’re the best candidate strike the right “match” in terms of philosophy, vision and culture.

YOUR PASSIONS:

POSSIBLE CAREERS:

Read more!
Get more tips on how to find a career at LINKForCounselors.com