Individual Development Plan (IDP)
Aspiring to Accomplished Leader
Accomplished Leader to Better Leader

Congratulations on your decision to take more control over the success of your career. IDPs are written plans designed to meet your specific goals for development.

This resource was developed by CompTIA's Future Leaders Community. Our community is focused on providing direction for youth considering a career in tech, professional career development for those currently in tech and best practices for building a productive multi-generational workforce. We encourage you to identify the professional goals most important to you, determine which skills, experiences and behaviors will help you achieve those goals followed by the development and execution of an action plan. Ideally, you will work with your manager to assess areas that will produce the greatest return for you and your organization. This way, you’ll both be more successful.

Benefits of career planning include personal growth, increased job satisfaction and job security as you develop more skills and add value to the organization. It pays to be as thorough as possible. Remember, your IDP is a living document and should be updated as your skill and goals evolve. If you’re an aspiring leader, you may choose to set a 1-year plan. If you’re an accomplished leader, a mid to long term plan (2-5 years) may be better suited. The purpose of the plan is to:

1. Set your priorities for development
2. Identify goals that are mutually beneficial to you and your employer
3. Identify knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) you’ll need to develop
4. Choose the best available resources, relationships and activities needed to achieve your goals
5. Set a timeline for success!
Vision:

Where do I want to be a year (or 2-5 years) from now? Specify responsibilities, roles and titles.
Self-Assess:

Reflect on current knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs).

1. Describe 2-3 pieces of work or projects of which you are particularly proud.

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2. How did your unique skills, knowledge or abilities make it possible for you to achieve these results?

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3. What are your top 3 professional strengths?

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Identify Areas Where You Can Improve

1. List 2-3 aspects of your job that you avoid doing, don't enjoy doing or not very good at.

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2. Identify someone who is good at the tasks that you are not good at – request their guidance on how to improve your skills in this area.

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3. Identify 2-3 new development activities or processes that you will engage in to improve your skills in these areas.

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Adding Value to the Organization

1. List 3 actions you can take this year to gain a better understanding of the organization, your division/department or your own job.

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2. What kind of support or guidance would you like to see from your manager?

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3. Identify at least 2 potential mentors with 5 or more years of organizational experience who can help you develop your soft skills, technical skills and job skills.

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<th>Developmental Goals</th>
<th>Relationship of Goals to Organizational Goal</th>
<th>KSAs to be Developed</th>
<th>Developmental Activity</th>
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NOTES

Future Leaders
Recommended Reading

1. *7 Habits of Successful People*, Steven R. Covey
2. *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, Dale Carnegie
3. *Principles*, Ray Dalio
5. *Emotional Intelligence 2.0*, Travis Bradberry and Jean Graves
8. *Scaling Up: How a Few Companies Make It...and Why the Rest Don’t (Rockefeller Habits 2.0)*, Verne Harnish

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