

# TAKE A NEW CAREER FOR A TEST DRIVE FIRST

glow up, gyrl

If you think internships are just for recent graduates, think again. Many people in later stages of life are now using these opportunities to get on-the-job training and skills for different kinds of work.

1

SIGN UP FOR AN INTERNSHIP

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

2

Donate your time and services as a way to get your foot in the door. Ensure you select an organization relevant to your goals. Draft a written agreement outlining your responsibilities and what you want to accomplish.

Plan your vacation around getting a new work experience. Look for short term holiday positions in retail stores. Register with a temporary agency where you can get assignments for as little as one day.

3

USE YOUR VACATION TIME

DO FREELANCE WORK

4

When you're trying to break into a new field, it's often easier to find contract work for specific projects rather than getting hired on a full time basis.

Keep your day job and branch out with evening or weekend work. You'll be supplementing your income at the same time.

5

GET A PART-TIME JOB

LEVERAGE YOUR HOBBY

6

Turn your hobby into a second career. For instance, give your friends a good deal on using you as their wedding photographer. If you're talented and dependable, it may soon become a full time living.

Keep a list of your activities and the results you achieve. Collect work samples to create your own portfolio. In a weak job market, proving your potential to contribute makes you stand out.

7

DOCUMENT YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REWRITE YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION

8

Take on new responsibilities in your current workplace. Your employer is likely to be impressed with your initiative.

You may still find that switching careers will reduce your income at least temporarily. Look for ways to cut your expenses so you can pursue your dreams.

9

MONITOR YOUR BUDGET

NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK

10

Reach out to people from diverse backgrounds. Your hairdresser or another parent at your child's school may become your link to a new career.

Many skills are transferable. If you're good with numbers, you may be able to move from financial planning to tutoring kids in math.

11

TAKE INVENTORY OF YOUR SKILLS

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

12

Seek out community programs and online resources that may come in handy however your career goals evolve.