# Occupational Outlook

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## Introduction

Professions such as military intelligence, business executive, and clinical psychology are some of the highly valued careers that most young people dream to join as their career job. However, choosing a profession or a career is a challenging task to most people, and that explains why there are a number of people who still resign from their dream jobs. Various factors ought to be considered when choosing a profession, key among them being the passion and love for the job. In this research paper, the goal is to provide information about the three professions mentioned above that will help career seekers to make an informed decision when choosing their professions. Factors of consideration that are discussed herein include the environment in which the job is done, education requirement for the profession and the skills (both hard and soft skills) required for the profession.

## Business Executive

A business executive is a person in charge of the running or management of an organization. Though the position covers many jobs, it is commonly used in reference to the highest office in an organization. As such, business executives are in charge of the organization and are responsible for the creation and review of the company goals. Their duties vary depending on the expectation of the organization and the staff involved. In the organization’s setting, the business executives occupy the top most ranks where they play the supervisory role.

### Skills Used

Business executives are responsible for creating a good relationship with the people outside the organization. They represent the company in community development initiatives and negotiate contracts on behalf of the company (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015). Therefore, they need to have good persuasive and interrelation skills to be able to convince the outside people to do business with their firm. They also need excellent report writing skills as they are required to write yearly reports on what the company has accomplished. The executives are in charge of every operation within the given organization. Per se, they use the management and supervisory skills to ensure that the business operates according to the set policies.

### Work Condition

Business executives often have a healthy working environment characterized by spacious offices and many support staff. Another notable characteristic of the executives in terms of working conditions is the long working hours which sometimes extend to weekends. Most of the business executives in the private or corporate companies work for over forty hours per week (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015). Their work also involves a lot of traveling, both domestically and internationally depending on the size of the firm. Moreover, their work is characterized by a lot of meetings, both with people from outside the business and those within. Although they work mostly indoors, their job is also characterized by a lot of interaction by the staff and public (Illinois Career Information System (CIS), nd). Due to the competitiveness of the corporate environment and pressure to produce good results, the working condition of business executives can be described as stressful and demanding.

### Education, Training and Licensure

According to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2015), this occupation requires at least a bachelor’s degree in a business related field. Most business executives have a degree in the relevant field in which the company operates and an added degree such as a degree in business administration or finance. Nevertheless, all the skills required in this profession cannot be taught in class. It requires a combination of knowledge, skills and experience. Therefore, most business executives are picked from those with a considerable work experience and with industry certification earned through trade union recommendation.

### Outlook and Salary

The average annual salary for a business executive as at 2015 is $185,850. The industry is projected to grow at a steady average rate of 6% during the 2014- 2024 decade. However, this growth will vary depending on the rate of industry growth. Hence, the competition for business executive jobs is expected to be stiffer in the coming years. As at 2014, 2,467,500 people were employed as business executives.

### Conclusion

My reflection on this occupation is that it is the most intensive of all occupations. It requires a combination of skills and knowledge but applicable to every industry; even in political setups. I appreciate the role that business executives play, especially, being the creative force behind every project and the fact that the executives are always the ones in control of everything that happens within the company. Intrinsically, my interest lies in being the leader in whatever capacity I hold and as such, I believe that this profession would suit me.

### Occupational questions

1. This occupation requires you to be the supervisor of everybody in the organization and to ensure that everything is done according to the set policies. Have you ever faced a situation in which the employees are not willing to follow your orders?
2. You are in charge of negotiating contracts with other partners on behalf of the company. What is the major challenge that you face in this line of duty?

## Military Intelligence Officer

A military intelligence officer is a military personnel in charge of setting up of different intelligence responsibilities and provide essential information about the enemy for the state. According to U.S Army (2016), the duty of a military intelligence officer is to command and coordinate the military intelligence soldiers, assess risks of the military course of actions and act to counter or neutralize the threat, and use the intelligence to reduce uncertainty for the commander.

### Skills Used

Given that the intelligence officers work hand in hand with the soldiers in the battlefield, they are required to have the military skills too. They are required to be intelligent and confident of their actions. Other necessary skills for this job is that the person must be self-disciplined, able to make quick decisions, physically and mentally fit to perform under pressure and capable of bearing numerous responsibilities.

### Work Condition

The specific working condition of a military intelligence officer depends on the occupational specialty and the branch of service. Most active intelligence personnel work near military bases. However, they move for job assignments depending on the mission. They, however, operate from stores or buildings within the military base. The working hours of the intelligence officers vary depending on the need of the military. Therefore, the officers must be prepared to work additional hours to full mission.

### Education, Training and Licensure

Though military intelligence officers are trained military professionals, they specialize in military information gathering and analysis. As such, they must be intelligent individuals with equivalent academic credentials. Therefore, most intelligence officers have a minimum of bachelor's degree. However, they still have to undergo extra training in the intelligence academies and be certified to be fit to serve. They also have to undergo boot camp, which includes a course in military skills and protocols, orientation and introduction to military life, weapon training, team building and rigorous physical exercise.

### Outlook and Salary

The basic pay of the military intelligence officers depends on the rank and specialty. The median annual salary for the military intelligence officer is $84,012 (Payscale Human Capital, 2016). The goal of military intelligence department is to neutralize all friendly or enemy threats. The number of officers required depends on the number of threats that the country faces. As per the current country situation, the number of military intelligence officers is expected to remain constant through to 2024.

### Conclusion

What I learnt from this occupation is that a military intelligence officer must be somebody who is both physically and mentally fit, can work under pressure and bear numerous responsibilities. I like the role they play in collecting various meaningless data and transforming them into lead information. I envision myself being successful in this field as I enjoy the analytic side of the occupation.

### Occupational questions

1. What are some of the skills that one can learn through experience in this field?
2. As an intelligence officer, you are required bear numerous responsibilities. In you line of operation, what mission do you consider a success?

## Clinical Psychologist

A clinical psychologist is responsible for helping people to understand or deal with emotional or mental disorders. Their role involves speaking with patients with mental, emotional or behavioral problems to help them to understand their perceived cause of ailment. The common diseases or disorders that the clinical psychologists treat include depression, substance abuse, eating disorder, and learning disability.

### Skills Used

Clinical psychologists interact with their clients as they strive to identify and diagnose the psychological, emotional or behavioral disorders that ails their clients. As such, to perform their duties, they employ observational, communication, and organizational skills. Clinical psychologists also conduct research and publish their findings in industry articles. Therefore, they also use research and report writing skills.

### Work Condition

Clinical psychologists work in many areas such as schools, military camps, and hospitals; depending on the population they choose to treat. However, most of them are based in hospitals or mental health facilities. They work from a particular location, hence, the job does not involve a lot of traveling. Clinical psychologists work with schedule but the number of hours of work depends on the number of clients. The job is not demanding although may be stressing on days when there are more clients.

### Education, Training, and Licensure

A clinical psychologists can be selected from different backgrounds with any type of work, so long as they have the passion and drive for the profession. However, for one to be allowed to operate as a clinical psychologist, he or she must be trained in the field. One is required to earn at least a bachelor’s degree in the field of clinical psychology or any other related field (All Psychology Schools, 2017). Intrinsically one cannot be allowed to operate as a clinical psychologist without the required qualification. However, licensing and certification vary from state to state.

### Outlook and Salary

The salary for clinical psychologists depends on many factors including the location, popularity and experience. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2015), the annual average salary for a clinical psychologist in 2015 was $76,040. Although it is expected that the field will grow by about 12 %, clinical psychologists will also face stiff competition from people with master’s degree in psychology in the coming decades. This figure shows that people are developing interest in the occupation and the positions are in high demand

### Conclusion

What stuck out to me after I analyzed this occupation was that earnings depend on the location and the good name of the psychologist as a result of the good work. I appreciate the communication and diagnostic aspects of the occupation. Also, I like listening to people’s problems and offering advice, and I see myself being successful in this field.

### Occupational questions

1. Do social media have an effect in this industry?
2. What do you foresee changing in this industry in the next 15 years?

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