

GROWING YOUR CAREER



TAKING OWNERSHIP OF YOUR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

04/25

GROWING YOUR CAREER

Professional growth is the ongoing process of improving your skills, knowledge and abilities to advance your career and overall professional development.



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Keys to career growth



Mindset Matters

- ❖ **Adopt a growth mindset** – embrace learning & challenges
- ❖ **Take initiative** – create opportunities, don't wait for them



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Set Goals

- ❖ Define short-term & long-term career goals
- ❖ Use **SMART** Goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound)

S

Specific

What exactly are we trying to achieve?

M

Measurable

How will we know we've achieved it?

A

Attainable

Is it realistically possible to achieve it?

R

Relevant

Does it align to our company vision and revenue growth?

T

Time

When do we want to achieve this by?

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Develop the necessary skills

- ❖ Invest in technical & soft skills (communication, leadership)
- ❖ Seek training, certifications, and hands-on experience



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Networking & Opportunities

Networking is building and maintaining relationships with others in your field or industry to facilitate the exchange of information, resources and support.

- Build connections
- Find mentors to guide and challenge you
- Attend conferences and round tables
- Join professional organizations (APCO, NENA, etc.)

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Networking & Opportunities



Seek Opportunities

- ❖ Volunteer for projects outside your comfort zone
- ❖ Take on leadership roles & special assignments
- ❖ Lateral moves can build valuable experience

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Networking & Opportunities



Work on Personal Branding

- ❖ Keep your resume & LinkedIn updated
- ❖ Maintain a strong professional reputation
- ❖ Share your knowledge and showcase achievements



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Overcoming Challenges

- ❖ **Lack of confidence?** Take small steps & practice
- ❖ **Limited resources?** Seek free training & mentorship
- ❖ **Fear of failure?** Learn from mistakes & keep going

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Action Plan-Start Today

- ❖ Identify one skill to improve in the next 3 months
- ❖ Find one mentor or industry connection
- ❖ Take charge of your career – **growth starts with you!**

Take Action



THANK YOU



Information submitted by Samantha Johnson
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FL APCO TRAINING COMMITTEE