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Find your niche...

If you have not figured it by now, the insurance industry is so diverse. There are so many different career directions you can go. The entry level position you may have started in many years ago has most likely spiraled and may have ended up in a different department or company. Insurance is the necessary evil. We all need it. The industry itself is just about recession proof.

In my opinion it takes a good 3-5 years to get a good grasp of the industry and the different career paths available. My advice is that if you are looking to make a move, ask yourself 3 questions.

First question to ask yourself, do you want to be on the company, whole sale or agency side. Each one has a different audience. The audience will either be the named insured versus the person who is speaking to the named insured. If you think about it, it is basically the same duty of work but the tasks to do the work may be slightly different.

The second question to ask yourself is what is it that you want to do for your client. Keep in mind the client will either be the named insured or the person speaking to the named insured. There are also so many career options. Do you want to work in the claims department, sales, accounting department, customer service, technology department or do you want to be an underwriter? The choices are quite extensive because in each of these departments there are supervisors and management positions as well.

The third question to ask yourself is there a certain segment of the insurance industry do you like most. By this I mean do you like Workers Compensation versus Professional Liability or Cyber Liability? If your understanding of Professional Liability is challenging why complicate the matter by working with Professional Liability policies. Choose something that is going to keep you intrigued. I personally know someone who loves computers but landed up in the insurance industry. He is now a cyber liability underwriter. Perfect match him.

The information I just shared I cannot take credit for. I recently had a guest on my podcast who is in the Employment Recruitment industry. She shared the idea that if you are looking for an accounting job, but really like Nike, why not try to get an accounting job at Nike. This makes complete sense. I thought about it from an insurance perspective and broke it down to 3 questions. Asking yourself the 3 questions should help steer you into the direction that would be most desirable to you.

Personally, I also landed in the Insurance Industry. I went to school for Computer Programming. I chose Computer Programming because I was able to be creative with my thoughts while still having a definitive answer. I found my niche. My niche is using my ability to think out of the box and provide alternate solutions for my clients, staff and firm.